



Jil Harrington leaves flowers at the memorial for WDBJ7 Digital Broadcast Center's shooting victims in Roanoke, Va., Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015. The shooting of a television reporter and a cameraman unfolded on live TV before an audience of tens of thousands on the smaller market central Virginia television station.

(Heather Rousseau/The Roanoke Times via AP)

# Reporter, Cameraman Killed On Air; Gunman Dies

STEVE HELBER  
PAM RAMSEY  
JONATHAN DREW  
Associated Press  
MONETA, Virginia (AP) — A TV reporter and cameraman were shot to death during a live television interview Wednesday by a gunman who recorded himself carrying out the killings and posted the video on social media after fleeing the

scene. Authorities identified the suspect as a journalist who had been fired from the station in 2013. Hours later, he ran off the road and a police officer found him with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He died at a hospital later Wednesday. The shots rang out on-air as reporter Alison Parker and

cameraman Adam Ward were presenting a local tourism story at an outdoor shopping mall. Viewers saw her scream and run, and she could be heard saying "Oh my God," as she fell. Ward fell, too, and the camera he had been holding on his shoulder captured a fleeting image of the suspect holding a handgun.

WDBJ quickly switched back to the anchor at the station, her eyes large and jaw dropping as she said, "OK, not sure what happened there." The station later went live again, reporting on their own station and staff as the story developed. Parker and Ward were killed as the gunman fired about 15 shots.

Their interview subject, Vicki Gardner, was in stable condition later Wednesday at press time after surgery for her wounds. The gunman was Vester Lee Flanagan II, 41, of Roanoke, who appeared on WDBJ as Bryce Williams, authorities said.

Continued on Page 3



## Eastern Caribbean region braces for rain, wind as Tropical Storm Erika approaches

**DANICA COTO**

**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**

— Government leaders ordered schools, airports and even casinos to close and they prepared shelters as Tropical Storm Erika approached the eastern Caribbean on Wednesday. The storm was located

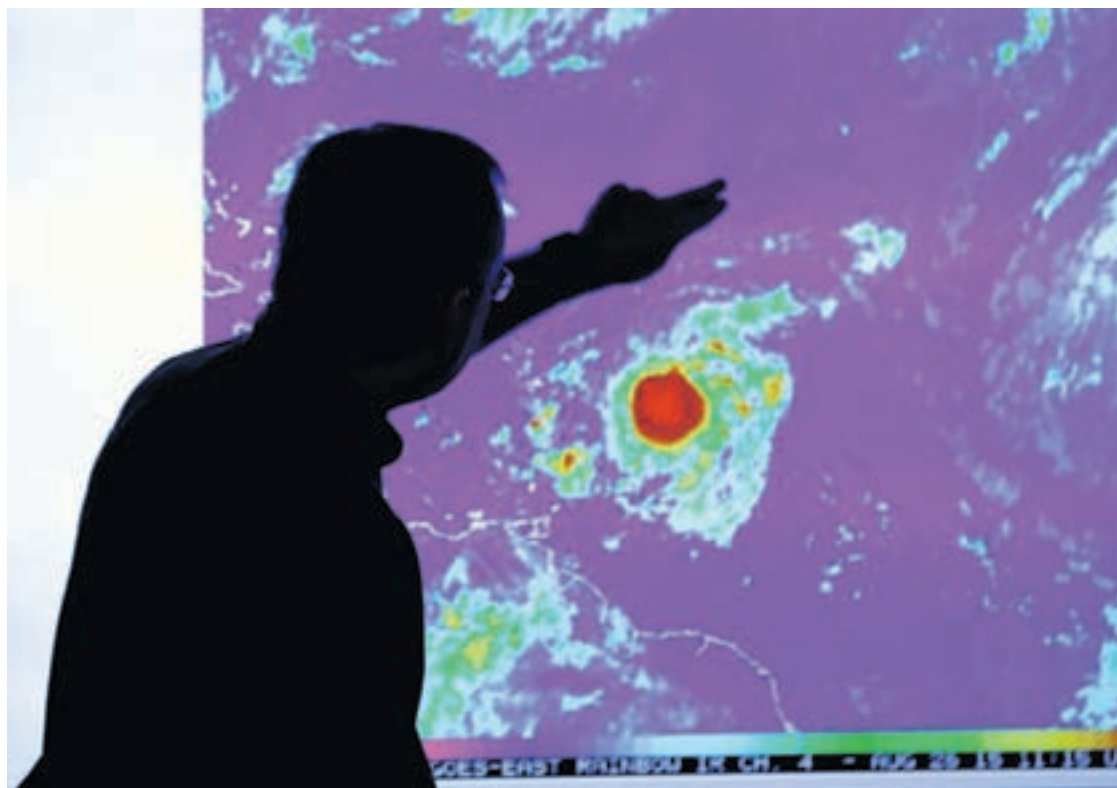
October.

"Too many times we've seen things happen that were not predicted," she said.

Authorities in the nearby Dutch Caribbean territory of St. Maarten said schools and government offices would close Thursday. They also asked that casi-

watch was in effect for the northern Dominican Republic, the Turks & Caicos Islands and southeastern Bahamas.

The storm is expected to be near South Florida by Monday, according to James Franklin, chief hurricane forecaster at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.



**James Franklin, chief hurricane forecaster, looks at an image of Tropical Storm Erika as it moves westward towards islands in the eastern Caribbean, at the National Hurricane Center, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015, in Miami. Government leaders ordered schools, airports and even casinos to close and they prepared shelters as Tropical Storm Erika approached the eastern Caribbean on Wednesday.**

(AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)

about 155 miles (250 kilometers) east of Antigua and was moving west at 17 mph (28 kph) with maximum sustained of 45 mph (75 kph). The storm was not expected to strengthen over the next two days.

Erika was forecast to pass near Antigua and Barbuda overnight, with authorities in the twin-island nation warning of flash floods given the extremely dry conditions caused by the worst drought to hit the Caribbean in recent years.

Boats at Shell Beach Marina on Antigua's north coast have been out of the water since Saturday, with people not taking chances as Erika approaches, said Caroline Davy, a marina employee.

She said many people were caught off-guard when Tropical Storm Gonzalo battered Antigua last

nos, restaurants and other businesses close by mid-night Wednesday. Officials warned they might temporarily suspend power and water service as the storm approaches.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Erika would move over or near parts of the Leeward Islands late Wednesday and then near Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands on Thursday.

All airports in the U.S. Virgin Islands would be closed to incoming flights until Friday, and government offices would close as well, said Gov. Kenneth Mapp.

"This is a fast-moving storm, and so we expect conditions to deteriorate rapidly," he said.

Tropical storm warnings were issued for Puerto Rico, the U.S. and British Virgin Islands and the Leeward Islands. A tropical storm

But its intensity is still uncertain.

"We don't know how much of the storm will be left," he said, adding that it faces strong upper-level westerly winds in the next two to three days.

Antigua-based regional airline LIAT and Puerto Rico-based Seaborne Airlines have canceled more than two dozen flights through Friday because of the storm, and officials in Puerto Rico said they would suspend ferry transportation between the main island and the popular sister islands of Culebra and Vieques starting Thursday. The U.S. Coast Guard said it would close all ports in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on Thursday. Universities across Puerto Rico also announced they would not hold classes on Thursday. □

## Obama to seek unity with pope on issues in White House visit

**JOSH LEDERMAN**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Sweeping into office in 2009, President Barack Obama captured near rock-star status around the world among millions who saw him as the embodiment of a new sense of social purpose. Now, that baton has largely been passed to Pope Francis, whose visit to the White House next month will put his common cause with Obama on vivid display.

Obama has made no secret of his affection for the outspoken pope, calling him a "transformative leader" whose influence has transcended the Roman Catholic community. The pope has embraced many of the issues Obama has sought to advance, including global warming, poverty and diplomacy with Iran and Cuba.

Vice President Joe Biden, a Catholic, said the pope's Sept. 23 visit will mark an important moment not only for Catholics but also for all Americans.

"Pope Francis has breathed new life into what I believe is the central mission of our faith: Catholic social doctrine," Biden said in a statement to The Associated Press. Invoking key elements of Obama's agenda, Biden added that Francis "has become a moral rudder for the world on some of the most important issues of our time, from inequality to climate change."

The pope's brief visit to the White House is part of his highly anticipated trip to the U.S. and Cuba. It's a reunion of sorts for Obama and Francis, who first met when the president visited the Vatican last year.

Despite deep differences on some social issues such as abortion, Obama and the pope are expected to focus on areas of agreement. The White House said economic opportunity, immigration and refugees, and protection of religious minorities were high on the agenda.

"It's going to be a come-to-Jesus moment — no pun intended — for the many politicians who want to claim the mantle of Pope Francis," said Michael Wear, a former White House official who led faith outreach for Obama's 2012 campaign.

For Obama, the visit offers a chance to imbue his remaining goals with a sense of moral authority as he approaches the end of his presidency.

Viewed as largely above politics, Francis is extremely popular in the U.S. Tickets to his speech to Congress are such a hot commodity that an overflow crowd of thousands is expected to watch on Jumbotron from the National Mall, the grassy expanse that leads to the Capitol.

"In a way, Pope Francis has become a conscience for this age of the world. When President Obama came to office, he too had that aura for at least the first couple of years," said Stephen Schneck, who runs the Catholic politics institute at Catholic University of America. "But Pope Francis' message is moral and religious. He's not going to be talking about legislation."

The White House has praised Francis for involving himself in issues usually left to politicians. In a rare move, Francis personally intervened to help the U.S. and Cuba restore relations, writing leaders of both countries and hosting their delegations at the Vatican for final talks. And on climate change, a cornerstone of Obama's desired legacy, Francis added the weight of the pulpit by publishing a landmark encyclical calling climate change real and man-made. □





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# Reporter, Cameraman Killed On Air; Gunman Dies

Continued from front

Jeffrey Marks, WDBJ's president and general manager, said Flanagan had to be escorted by police out of the station when he was fired.

Marks described him as "an unhappy man" and "difficult to work with," always "looking out for people to say things he could take offense to."

"Eventually after many incidents of his anger coming to the fore, we dismissed him. He did not take that well," Marks explained.

Video posted hours after the shooting on Bryce Williams' Twitter account and Facebook page showed an outstretched arm holding the handgun and firing repeatedly at Parker as she tried to run away.

The shooter appeared to walk up to the victims and stand close by from them while holding the weapon. The three, in the midst of a live TV interview, do not seem to notice the gunman, who doesn't start shooting until Ward points the camera at Parker.

Ward was engaged to a producer at the station, Melissa Ott, who was celebrating her last day on the job and was in the control room, watching it live, as the shooting unfolded, Marks said.

Tweets posted on Williams' Twitter account Wednesday described workplace conflicts with both victims.

They say Williams filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission against Parker, and that Ward had re-

cated," Marks said. ABC News reported that a man claiming to be Williams called the network, saying he had just shot

Flanagan says in the "suicide note" that he bought a gun two days after the Charleston, South Carolina church shootings, seeking

Overton said.

Both the victims were romantically involved with other employees at the station, according to Parker's boyfriend, WDBJ anchor Chris Hurst.

He wrote online that they hadn't shared their relationship publicly but "were very much in love." He said they had just moved in together and wanted to get married. "I am numb," he said.

The shooting happened around 6:45 a.m. at Bridgewater Plaza in Franklin County, as Parker interviewed Gardner about the upcoming 50th anniversary festivities for Smith Mountain Lake, a local tourism destination.

Ward, 27, graduated from Virginia Tech and was engaged to a producer at the station, Melissa Ott, said WDBJ spokesman Mike Morgan.

Parker had just turned 24 and had joined the station as an intern after attending James Madison University, where she was the editor of the school's newspaper, The Breeze. According to her Facebook page, Parker spent most of her life outside Martinsville, Virginia.

The station is based in Roanoke, Virginia, and serves the southwest and central part of the state. The shootings happened at a mall just off Smith Mountain Lake in Moneta, southeast of Roanoke. □



**This undated photograph made available by WDBJ-TV shows reporter Alison Parker, left, and cameraman Adam Ward. Parker and Ward were fatally shot during an on-air interview, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015, in Moneta, Va. Authorities identified the suspect as fellow journalist Vester Lee Flanagan II, who appeared on WDBJ-TV as Bryce Williams. Flanagan was fired from the station in 2013.**

(Courtesy of WDBJ-TV via AP)

ported Williams to human resources.

Marks said Williams alleged that other employees made racially tinged comments to him, but said his EEOC claim was dismissed and none of his allegations could be corroborated.

"We think they were fabri-

cated," Marks said. ABC News reported that a man claiming to be Williams called the network, saying he had just shot

Flanagan says in the "suicide note" that he bought a gun two days after the Charleston, South Carolina church shootings, seeking

revenge for racial discrimination, sexual harassment and workplace bullying he said he suffered as a gay black man.

"This gentleman was disturbed at the way things had turned out at some point in his life. Things were spiraling out of control,"





## Experts: Trump, Ramos confrontation shouldn't be a surprise

DAVID BAUDER

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Donald Trump's onscreen confrontation with Univision's Jorge Ramos on Tuesday over the Republican presidential candidate's immigration plan should only be a surprise to those who don't know Ramos.

The 57-year-old news anchor has a history of sharply questioning politicians and not hiding his opinions. Days before a security guard forced Ramos out of Trump's Iowa news conference on Tuesday — he was later let back in and continued a contentious exchange — he had denounced Trump on CNN. Ramos said the immigration issue "is personal" and when Trump voices his views that include mass deportations and revoking the citizenship of children born in the U.S. to undocumented parents, "he's talking about me" and all the other American Latinos born in another country. Ramos is generally considered the most influential television journalist among Latinos living in the United States. He and Maria Elena Salinas co-anchor a weeknight newscast on Univision, the country's most-watched Spanish-language network. A syndicated columnist, he also hosts a Sunday morning political panel for Univision and a weekly newsmagazine on Fusion, an English-language network geared to Latinos.

A Mexican native who



**Miami-based Univision anchor Jorge Ramos, left, asks Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump a question about his immigration proposal during a news conference, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2015, in Dubuque, Iowa.**

(AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall)

came to the United States as a young journalist when the Mexican government censored one of his reports, Ramos said that Trump's immigration plan was full of "empty promises. What he's trying to sell the American public simply doesn't work. It's impossible," he told CNN.

Univision said Ramos had earlier requested an interview with Trump, which the candidate rejected before distributing Ramos' cell phone number on social media. So the Miami-based Ramos traveled to Iowa for the news conference.

Trump on Wednesday said that Ramos was "totally out of line" in the news conference.

"I would have gotten to

him very quickly," Trump said on NBC's "Today" show. "This man gets up and starts ranting and raving and screaming, and honestly being very disrespectful to all the other reporters."

For many Americans schooled in a tradition of objective journalism, the idea of a reporter coming into the situation with such a clear point of view is both unusual and off-putting.

"There's no question that he's important and that he has a lot of influence, but I think that people now have sort of recognized that he's more of an advocate than a journalist," said Sean Spicer, communications director for the Republican National Committee.

Outside of the news conference before he was let back in, Ramos was approached by a man wearing a Trump badge who told him he was "very rude," according to a video clip released by Univision.

"Get out of my country," the man said. "Get out." Ramos quietly reminded him, "I'm a U.S. citizen, too." There are different standards regarding journalistic objectivity in countries outside of the United States, particularly in Latin America, said Mark Feldstein, a veteran TV newsmen and now a journalism professor at the University of Maryland. While there is more advocacy in American journalism now, too, "it's

impossible to imagine any of the American television anchors doing the same thing to Donald Trump or any other serious candidate," he said.

Most Spanish-language journalists understand that Ramos was operating within an advocacy tradition that does not negate his role as a reporter, said Sallie Hughes, a University of Miami journalism professor with the school's Latin American Studies program. Ramos also takes seriously his role as speaking for American Latinos. During the 2012 campaign, he penned open letters to the Republican and Democratic parties bluntly outlining where they stood with the Latino community. He's had testy exchanges with President Barack Obama, at one point seeming to anger the president by telling him that he's been called the "deporter-in-chief" by some in the Latino community.

"As a journalist you have to take a stand," Ramos told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Wednesday. "I think the best journalism happens when you take a stand and when it comes to racism, discrimination, corruption, public life, dictatorship or human rights, as journalists we are not only required but forced to take a stand and clearly, when Mr. Trump is talking about immigration in an extreme way, we have to confront him and I think that's what I did." □



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## Pentagon probing alleged distorting of war intelligence

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Pentagon's inspector general is investigating an allegation that the military command overseeing the anti-Islamic State campaign distorted or altered intelligence assessments to exaggerate progress against the militant group, a defense official said Wednesday.

The official was not authorized to discuss the probe publicly and so spoke on condition of anonymity.

The investigation was first disclosed by The New York Times. The paper reported that the investigation began after at least one civilian Defense Intelligence Agency analyst told authorities that he had evidence that officials at U.S. Central Command were improperly reworking conclusions of assessments prepared for policy makers, including President Barack Obama.

Details of the allegations were not available. A spokeswoman for the inspector general's office, Bridget Serchak, declined to comment.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Wednesday that he can't speak about any potential inspector general report or investigation.

Asked if he believes he's gotten skewed intelligence, he said: "I myself have tried to be very candid throughout about my own assessments of the counter-ISIL campaign. And I, therefore, have spent a lot of time making sure that I'm well-informed and I also expect candor on the part of everybody else in the department. That's the only way we can know what we're doing, how we're

doing and when."

Carter said everyone from the president on down needs the most candid and accurate information "in order to make the kind of decisions that will lead most rapidly to victory."

Carter spoke to reporters at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada, where he watched a portion of the military exercise Red Flag, involving at least 100 fighter jets and other aircraft from the U.S., Israel, Jordan and Singapore.

Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook said he could not confirm the probe. The Pentagon typically does not publicly comment on the work of the inspector general's office, which is an independent arm of the Defense Department.

Cook said Defense Secretary Ash Carter "counts on independent intelligence and analysis from a variety of sources to help him make critical decisions about the nation's security."

White House press secretary Josh Earnest said Obama "places a premium" on getting unvarnished intelligence assessments and a range of views for policy-makers.

"That yields, in the minds of our experts, the best, richest account of the facts on the ground," Earnest said, adding that the president is confident he is receiving honest intelligence assessments.

A Pentagon spokesman, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, said Pentagon and Central Command officials have been publicly candid about the difficulty of the war against the Islamic State. At times, however, they have painted a rosier picture than was reflected by developments on the ground. □



Defense Secretary Ash Carter speaks during a news conference at the Pentagon. The Pentagon's inspector general is investigating an allegation that the military command overseeing the anti-Islamic State campaign distorted or altered intelligence assessments to exaggerate progress against the militant group, a defense official said Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

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# Wal-Mart to stop selling AR-15s and similar weapons

**CLAUDIA LAUER**  
**Associated Press**

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)** — Wal-Mart will stop selling the AR-15 rifle and other semi-automatic weapons at its stores because fewer people are buying them, a spokesman said Wednesday.

The AR-15 rifles and other modern sporting rifles were being sold at less than a third of the company's 4,600 U.S. stores. Company spokesman Kory Lundberg

said Wal-Mart Stores Inc. will remove the remaining inventory as stores transition from summer to fall merchandise, which should take a week or two to complete. Lundberg said the decision to remove the weapons was not political and that the Bentonville, Arkansas-based retailer made the decision earlier this year.

"It's similar to what we do with any product. Being what it is, it gets a little more

attention, but it's the same process for any other product," Lundberg said.

Lundberg said the company had seen a decrease in sales of the particular models of guns, but declined to give specific sales numbers. He said stores would increase inventory of other models of shotguns and rifles popular among hunters. "We wanted to make sure when customers are coming and looking to purchase those products, they

see the products they want. We see more business from hunters and people shooting clay," he said.

Several analysts said the decision was likely based on sales and demand.

"Big retailers don't make decisions on a whim, and it would appear that they are responding to their market," said Jason Maloni, a crisis communications expert at LEVICK. "This seems to be a strategic decision of Wal-Mart to address cus-

tomers desires."

In recent years, shareholders have placed some pressure on the company to reconsider its sales policies of products such as weapons that hold high-capacity magazines. Bushmaster variations of the semi-automatic AR-15 have been used in such high-profile mass shootings as the Sandy Hook massacre in Newtown, Connecticut, and the theater shooting in Aurora, Colorado. □

## Colorado theater gunman's sentencing caps grueling trial



**Colorado theater shooter James Holmes is led out of the courtroom after being formally sentenced on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015 in Centennial, Colo. Holmes was sentenced to life in prison without parole by Judge Carlos Samour Jr. Holmes killed 12 people and injured 70 others in the July 20, 2012 ambush.**

(RJ Sangosti/The Denver Post via AP, Pool)

**SADIE GURMAN**  
**Associated Press**

**CENTENNIAL, Colorado (AP)** — Belittled by the judge and jeered by spectators, James Holmes was sent to prison for the rest of his life Wednesday, while

the survivors of his murderous attack on a Colorado movie theater wondered aloud how they would spend the rest of their days. Judge Carlos A. Samour sentenced Holmes to the maximum — 12 consecu-

tive life terms without parole plus 3,318 years — then made a final, contemptuous order: "Sheriff, get the defendant out of my courtroom, please."

Samour described Holmes as an angry quitter who

gave up on life and turned his hatred into murder and mayhem against innocent strangers.

Survivors and victims' family members in the gallery cheered, and someone shouted "Loser!" as deputies took Holmes away.

The long, grueling trial came to its formal conclusion three years and 37 days after Holmes murdered 12 people and tried to kill 70 more during a midnight showing of the Batman movie "The Dark Knight Rises" in the Denver suburb of Aurora.

Samour, who was scrupulously respectful toward Holmes throughout the trial, launched into a withering condemnation of him as someone who knew right from wrong but "robbed the world of all the good these victims would have accomplished" and irreparably damaged the lives of hundreds more.

"It is almost impossible to comprehend how a human being is capable of such acts," Samour said.

Outside the courthouse, prosecutors and victims broke into smiles and even cracked a few jokes, their relief obvious. But they also wondered what their futures would hold without the daily routine of the trial and the comfort they found in each other's presence.

"I'm relieved that it's over, but I don't think it will ever be over, you know?" said Rena Medek, whose daughter Micayla was among those killed. "I always have my daughter to think about."

Kathleen Larimer only recently has been able to accept that her son, John, was murdered in the attack. She said the trial has become her life and she doesn't know what moving forward will be like. □

## Report: Solyndra misrepresented facts to get loan guarantee

**KEVIN FREKING**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A four-year investigation has concluded that officials of the solar company Solyndra misrepresented facts and omitted key information in their efforts to get a \$535 million loan guarantee from the federal government.

The company's collapse soon after getting federal backing provided ammunition to lawmakers and other critics who portrayed it as wasteful government

spending. The company's failure likely will cost taxpayers more than \$500 million.

The report by the Energy Department's inspector general was released Wednesday. It's designed to provide federal officials with lessons learned as it proceeds to grant billions of dollars in additional loan guarantees. The inspector general found fault with the Department of Energy, describing its due diligence work as "less than fully effective." The report also

said department employees felt tremendous pressure to process loan guarantee applications.

In the end, however, the inspector general said the actions of the Solyndra officials "were at the heart of this matter."

"In our view, the investigative record suggests that the actions of certain Solyndra officials were, at best, reckless and irresponsible or, at worst, an orchestrated effort to knowingly and intentionally deceive and mislead the department,"

the IG's report said.

A federal loan guarantee program for energy projects was established in 2005 during President George W. Bush's administration.

Four years later, the Democratic-led Congress passed an economic stimulus bill that substantially expanded the program. In the ensuing two years, the department disbursed more than \$500 million to Solyndra, but in September 2011, the company laid off 1,100 employees, ceased operations and filed for bankrupt-

cy protection. Obama personally visited the plant in 2010 to cite it as an example of economic progress stemming from the Democratic-led stimulus bill.

The IG's report did not provide any response to its findings from a Solyndra representative.

Nor did it identify by name any particular Solyndra leader who gave misleading information. Miles Ehrlich, counsel for the company's former CEO, Chris Gronet, disputed the findings. □





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## US Financial Front:

# American durable goods orders up 2 percent in July

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Orders to U.S. factories for long-lasting manufactured goods rose for a second month in July, and demand in a key category that tracks business investment plans jumped by the largest amount in 13 months.

The Commerce Department said Wednesday orders for durable goods — items expected to last at least three years like refrigerators and cars — increased 2 percent in July after a 4.1 percent gain in June.

The result adds to a string of recent economic data that indicate the U.S. economy is on solid ground even in the face of various global headwinds. Deepening concerns about China's economy have sent shock waves through the world's financial markets in recent days.

"As global equities continue to be roiled by uncertainty in China, we can be grateful that at least the heavyweight in the developed world is growing," said Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, of the United States. "We already had a string of very positive data. And now, the weak link also known as business investment appears to be turning the corner."

Orders in a category that serves as a proxy for business investment expanded 2.2 percent in July following a 1.4 percent rise in June. These orders had fallen in four of the previous five months, reflecting the soft patch that manufacturing has faced this year.



A Ford Motor Co. employee works on the instrument panel of a 2016 Ford Explorer at the Chicago Assembly Plant in Chicago. The Commerce Department released durable goods orders for July on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015. (AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)

Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, called the gain in business invest-

ment "really good news." He described the result as a solid indication that the big cutbacks in investment

spending by oil companies were starting to taper off. The July increase in orders for durable goods was big-

ger than economists had been forecasting. They rose even though demand for commercial aircraft fell 6 percent during the month following a 69.7 percent surge in June.

Orders for machinery rose by 1.5 percent, and demand for communications equipment increased 1.8 percent. Orders for computers and primary metals such as steel both fell.

While the July durable goods report is encouraging, U.S. manufacturers must still contend with a host of risks that could set them back in the months ahead, including turbulence in China, a strong dollar and falling oil prices. The higher value of the dollar against foreign currencies makes U.S. goods more expensive and less competitive in major export markets. □

## Farm profits to fall second consecutive year

DAVID PITT

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) —

It will be a less profitable year for farmers as low grain, milk and hog prices cut into income, U.S. Department of Agriculture officials say.

The abundance of grain leftover from last year's crop and 2015's anticipated harvest of the third-largest corn crop and second-largest soybean crop on record have kept prices below the cost of production, while the cost of seed, fertilizer and land has dropped only slightly.

Net farm income is expected to decline 36 percent to \$58.3 billion, the USDA said in a report released

Tuesday. That's down from last year's \$91.1 billion and the lowest in nine years.

Just two years ago, net farm income was the highest ever, \$123.7 billion. Last year, sliding grain prices were offset in part by record livestock prices. This year, both are down; crop receipts are expected to fall 6.2 percent and livestock receipts will be down 9.1 percent. Expenses, however, won't drop very far — less than 1 percent. The pinch will translate into many farmers having to dip into savings or increase borrowing.

"A lot of the cash reserves that we've built up over the past few years, that's what we're burning through

right now to offset this lost income," said Chad Hart, an agricultural economist at Iowa State University.

Farm debt is forecast to increase by 5.8 percent, the report said, but that "financial risk ratios remain in acceptable ranges for now." Those who rent land have operated without profit for six years as rental prices soared with higher land values, according to Jerry Main, who plants corn and soybeans on about 500 acres of his own land and some rented in southeast Iowa. Farmers who own land fare better but low prices are having a financial impact, he said.

"My banker told me last spring that the year 2014

showed a lot of red ink for farmers and for 2015 at today's corn and soybean prices it's even worse," Main said.

Agriculture-dependent businesses are showing signs of stress, too.

Deere & Co., the world's biggest farm equipment manufacturer, laid off more than 1,000 workers in Iowa and Illinois factories this year. And Tyson Foods will end beef production at an Iowa plant, a move that affected 400 people.

Government payments including crop insurance, price support programs and disaster relief to farmers are projected to rise 16 percent to \$11.4 billion this year. □



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## American Traveler:

# Airfare deals pop up as airlines wage limited fare wars

**S. MAYEROWITZ**  
**AP Airlines Writer**

**ABOARD AMERICAN AIR-  
 LINES FLIGHT 1223 (AP) —**

Airline fare wars are making a comeback.

Don't expect widespread sales or cheap flights home for Thanksgiving. But a number of cities are seeing ridiculously low prices at off-peak hours — prices the industry has spent the years trying to eliminate.

Fliers have been able to fly Chicago to Boston for \$80 roundtrip, San Francisco to Las Vegas for \$67 roundtrip and New York to Los Angeles, with a connection, for \$150 roundtrip.

"This is the big break consumers have been waiting for in response to lower fuel prices," says Seth Kaplan, managing partner of industry newsletter Airline Weekly.

The price of oil is at the lowest level in six and a half years and the industry is saving billions of dollars on fuel, giving airlines leeway to cut fares but still post healthy profits. Airlines have also added larger, more efficient planes to their fleets while packing more seats into existing jets. So, while the number of domestic flights is down slightly over the past 12 months, there are now 3.4 percent more seats for sale — too many to meet the demand in all cities. To fill those extra seats, airlines have had to offer discounts.

Still, airlines are being very selective. Forget finding a deal for busy holidays or on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays when business travelers fly. The best

prices are for flights on traditionally slow days like Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday. And it helps if Southwest Airlines, Spirit Air-

and they have the power to do this because they are making record profits," says George Hobica, founder of travel deal site

more than 450 markets. Fliers booking these tickets typically save \$15 each way, but are not given advanced seat assignments,

Even passengers unable to take advantage of today's bargain-basement deals are getting a tiny bit of relief.

The average cost of a roundtrip domestic ticket, including taxes, purchased during the first seven months of this year was \$494.12. That's down \$5.41, or 1.1 percent, from the same period last year, according to the Airlines Reporting Corp., which processes ticket transactions for airlines and travel agencies. Prices are still higher than they were in 2011, 2012 and 2013, even when adjusted for inflation. And the small drop in ticket prices is nothing compared to the 31-percent savings airlines have seen on their fuel bills since the start of this year. One city having an outsized impact on fares is Dallas, where a federal law that banned most long flights from Dallas Love Field was lifted in October. Led by Southwest Airlines, the Dallas market has seen an 8.6 percent increase in seats for the 12 months ending in August, more than double the growth for the entire country. Wolfe Research analyst Hunter Keay says that two out of every five domestic flights — local market ones or connecting trips — can be affected by what happens in Dallas.

For instance, if Southwest offers a cheap fare from New York to Los Angeles, connecting in Dallas, American tries to match that. That forces United to match the fare for its flights, even if they connect in Chicago. □



**Colin Drummond, 4, pushes luggage from behind as he walks with family members to check-in a relative for an Alaska Airlines flight at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in SeaTac, Wash. Fliers in certain markets are seeing bargain flights as fare wars make a limited return.**

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

lines or Frontier Airlines flies the route.

For instance, Frontier recently had a sale for members of its club who pay an annual \$50 fee. Tickets were being offered for \$15 one-way including taxes. American Airlines and — to a lesser extent — Delta Air Lines and United Airlines are matching some of the discount fares. By doing so, they actually undercut the ultra-low-cost carriers because Spirit and Frontier charge customers extra to use overhead baggage bins or to have a drink of water.

"They're trying to force them out of the market

AirfareWatchdog.com. Spirit and Frontier each carries less than 2 percent of all domestic passengers. American, United and Delta made \$6.6 billion in combined profits during the first half of this year, so they afford to fight back on routes such as Chicago to Atlanta.

American spokesman Casey Norton says the airline "constantly looks at how we compete against a wide variety of airlines — from low cost carriers to premium global brands." Delta and United declined to comment. However, Delta has expanded its "Basic Economy" fare to

can't cancel or change the flight and are last to board.

Fare wars were destructive to the industry in the 1980s. Airlines were focused on being the largest carrier on a route, even though it often meant losing money. Today's airline industry is more disciplined, so the fare wars cause much less damage. The airlines still collect substantial fares on highly-profitable business routes and for holiday travel. Additionally, they take in billions in dollars fees for checked baggage fees and other things that were included in the ticket price back in the 1980s.



## Greece's Tsipras rules out most potential coalition partners



**Outgoing Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras listens to the Archbishop of Albania during their meeting in Athens. Tsipras resigned on Thursday, Aug. 20, following a rebellion in his party over Greece's new bailout, which saw dozens of Syriza lawmakers dissent when the deal came to a vote in Parliament.**

(AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — Greece's prime minister on Wednesday raised the political stakes ahead of next month's early national election, saying he will not enter a coalition with the main center-right and centrist opposition parties even if he needs their backing to govern.

Alexis Tsipras resigned last week, barely seven months into his four-year mandate, when his bailout-dependent country received a new rescue loan that saved it from a looming bankruptcy and exit from the euro currency.

He is seeking a stronger mandate, after his radical left-led coalition effectively lost its parliamentary major-

ity when dozens of his own hardline left lawmakers refused to back new austerity measures demanded for the loan — which parliament approved with the backing of pro-European opposition parties.

Tsipras is widely expected to win the snap election, which will most likely be held Sept. 20, but it is unclear whether he will secure enough seats in parliament to govern alone.

In an interview with private Alpha TV Wednesday, Tsipras ruled out a coalition with the center-right main opposition New Democracy party, or the smaller centrist Potami and PASOK parties.

"I will not become prime

minister in a coalition government with (New Democracy, PASOK or Potami)," he said. "I think that all three parties essentially express the old political system."

Before the election date is set, main opposition parties must complete the formal process of trying to form a national unity government. That procedure — doomed due to the parties' disagreements — is expected to end Thursday.

Tsipras' disaffected former comrades are angry at his policy U-turn to secure

the international loans, as he was elected Jan. 25 on pledges to scrap creditor-demanded income cuts and tax hikes. They have formed the rebel group Popular Unity, now Greece's third-largest party. Deepening the rift in Syriza, 53 members of the 201-strong central committee — the main party organ — announced their resignations from the party Wednesday, as they are switching to Popular Unity.

Tsipras has argued that he was forced to accept creditors' terms to keep

Greece in the euro, and said that if he secures a slender majority in the election he will seek a coalition with his current partner, the small right wing populist Independent Greeks.

But polls show that the Independent Greeks might not make it into parliament, which would greatly compromise Tsipras' position: He cannot form a coalition with the politically toxic Nazi-inspired Golden Dawn, Greece's fourth-strongest party, the anti-European Communist Party or Popular Unity. □

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## Egypt turns to Russia over terrorism

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Russian President Vladimir Putin and Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi on Wednesday called for a coalition to combat terrorism in the Middle East.

Opening a meeting with Putin in Moscow, el-Sissi said "the Egyptian people" are hoping for broader ties with Russia in all areas, particularly in fighting terrorism in the Middle East.

El-Sissi's Russian visit, his second in the past three months, highlights Moscow's attempts to expand its influence in Egypt at a time when Egyptian-U.S. relations have soured in the aftermath of the ouster of

Islamist President Mohamed Morsi.

Putin told reporters after the talks that regional powers should join their efforts to combat the Islamic State group.

"(We) have underscored the vital importance of setting a counter-terrorism front to include key international players of the region including Syria," he said.

Putin and el-Sissi were also expected to hammer out the details of a joint project to build Egypt's first nuclear power station but Putin told reporters on Wednesday that experts from both countries are still working on it. □



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## Gunman in French train attack charged with terrorism

**PARIS (AP)** — The Moroccan suspect in a foiled attack on a high-speed train in France is facing terrorism charges over what authorities say was a plan to unleash carnage among hundreds of passengers — but his family defended him Wednesday, saying he was in a

desperate situation. The Paris prosecutor's office confirmed Wednesday that Ayoub El-Khazzani was charged overnight. El-Khazzani, 26, was overpowered by at least five passengers, including three Americans and a Briton, after trying to attack the train with a

small arsenal. One person, a French-American who tried to seize an assault rifle from him, is hospitalized with gunshot wounds.

El-Khazzani has denied having terrorism plans, saying he stumbled on a bag of weapons and decided to use them to rob

passengers.

His older brother, Imran, reached by French radio network RMC, also said the younger man had no links with terrorism.

"I swear to you before God that my brother has nothing to do with a terrorist. We are Muslims. We respect people," the

brother said. "He could have gone crazy. His life was without a doubt difficult. He didn't have much money." His father, Mohamed, said Ayoub's job in France ended after about a month and a half and he believed his son acted out of a need for money. □

## Merkel travels to far-right heartland to defend refugees

**KERSTIN SOPKE**  
**FRANK JORDANS**  
**Associated Press**  
**HEIDENAU, Germany (AP)**

— Chancellor Angela Merkel was met with jeers Wednesday as she traveled to a German town at the center of a recent wave of far-right anti-foreigner violence, delivering a message of support for refugees as many look to her for leadership in handling the European migrant crisis.

"It's shameful and repulsive what we experienced here," Merkel told reporters in Heidenau, a town near the Saxony capital Dresden in eastern Germany where a far-right mob over the weekend hurled bottles and fireworks at police protecting a temporary shelter being set up for 600 refugees.

The violence in Heidenau



German Chancellor Angela Merkel addresses the media s after her visit to a refugee shelter that was attacked by far-right protesters over the weekend in Heidenau, eastern Germany, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015. (AP Photo/Jens Meyer)

and a series of recent arson attacks against asylum shelters elsewhere have

catapulted the migrant crisis to the top of the political agenda in Germany.

While most Germans have been welcoming — with many volunteering their

time to help refugees and some even opening their homes — a vocal minority has protested the arrival of so many foreigners in such a short time.

Demonstrating this trenchant opposition more than 100 far-right protesters jeered and sounded car horns as Merkel spoke in Heidenau. Some protesters shouted "Lying press!" while at least one woman held a placard denouncing the chancellor as a "race traitor" — a phrase used by the Nazis to refer to people who dealt with or had relationships with Jews. Authorities expect the number of refugees coming to Germany will reach 800,000 this year — a fourfold increase on last year. Worryingly, the number of attacks against refugees and asylum shelters has also surged. □

## Italy police keep peace at memorial for gangster clan head

**NICOLE WINFIELD**  
**Associated Press**

**ROME (AP)** — Police formed human chains to keep the peace Wednesday outside a discreet memorial service for a local clan leader after his ostentatious funeral prompted complaints from lawmakers and even the Vatican newspaper that it glorified the mob. Relatives of Vittorio Casa-

monica have lashed out at the media for portraying their family as mafiosi, and there were some scuffles with journalists outside the church Wednesday.

The service was no way near as extravagant as last week's funeral, which featured a horse-drawn carriage carrying the casket, a helicopter dropping flower petals overhead and a

band playing "The Godfather" theme song outside the church, which had banners hung on it reading "King of Rome" and "You conquered Rome, now you'll conquer Paradise." In interviews with Italian gossip magazine Oggi published Wednesday, several Casamonica family members acknowledged that some had criminal re-

cords. But they denied they were a mafia family and said they were being tarnished by the reputation of other members of the large clan.

"If we were mafiosi, how difficult would it have been to go and get the people who disrespected Uncle Vittorio?" Oggi quoted Tony Casamonica, a nephew, as saying. "The real

mafia would have already put them in cement."

Prosecutors have never described the Casamonicas as a "mafia" family in the classic sense, but have said they are the richest and most dangerous local gangsters in Rome with a patrimony of more than 90 million euros (\$102 million), much of it obtained through loansharking. □





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## Saudis: A Scud missile fired by Yemeni rebels is intercepted

AHMED AL-HAJ  
Associated Press

**SANAA, Yemen (AP)** — Saudi Arabia said its military "intercepted and destroyed" a Scud missile fired across the border by Yemeni rebels early Wednesday.

The Saudi military destroyed the missile's launch pad inside Yemen, Saudi's official news agency said. It said the missile was in the Jizan region in southern Saudi Arabia when it was intercepted.

The Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, said in a statement the missile hit a power plant in Jizan.

Yemen's conflict pits the Shiite Houthi rebels and troops loyal to a former president against an array of forces including southern separatists, local and tribal militias, Sunni Islamic militants as well as troops loyal to President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

The Iran-supported Houthis took over the capital, Sanaa, last September, and in March a Saudi-led coalition started launching airstrikes against them.

A high-ranking Saudi general was killed Sunday in Jizan by hostile fire. Several dozen Saudi soldiers have been killed in border attacks since the airstrikes began, mostly by missiles launched by the rebels and their allies.

The Saudi-led coalition meanwhile bombed several locations in Sanaa and in the central Marib province on Wednesday, according to tribal officials and security officials on both sides of the conflict. □

## Philippines seeks US help to protect troops at sea

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**

— The Philippine defense chief said he asked the visiting U.S. Pacific commander on Wednesday to help protect the transport of Filipino troops and supplies to Philippine-occupied reefs in the disputed South China Sea by deploying American patrol planes to discourage Chinese moves to block the resupply missions.

The Philippines has protested past attempts by Chinese coast guard ships to block smaller boats transporting military personnel, food and other supplies to a Filipino military ship outpost at disputed Second Thomas Shoal, which is also claimed and guarded by Chinese coast guard ships. The tense standoff at the shoal has lasted two years.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said the commander, Adm. Harry Harris Jr., assured him of U.S. readiness to provide assistance, adding that the U.S. military has flown an aircraft at least once when a Philippine boat delivered supplies last year to Filipino marines marooned on the rusty naval ship that ran aground years ago at the

disputed shoal.

AP journalists witnessing a resupply mission last year saw a U.S. military plane

by Chinese coast guard ships after the deployment of the U.S. patrol plane.

"If there are Americans

by Filipinos and Ren'ai by Chinese, and the nearby Spratly Islands lie about 120 miles (190 kilometers)



U.S. Navy Admiral Harry B Harris, second from right, United States Pacific Command to the Philippines Commander (USPACOM), is introduced to major service commanders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines following a welcoming ceremony at the armed forces headquarters at suburban Quezon city northeast of Manila, Philippines Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015.

(AP Photo/Bullit Marquez)

hovering above a Filipino supply boat, which a Chinese coast guard ship tried but failed to block.

Such U.S. military flights deter Chinese moves, Gazmin said, adding that Philippine resupply boats have been harassed less

flying around there, we won't be troubled," Gazmin said in an interview. "We need to be helped in our resupply missions. The best way they could assist is through their presence." Second Thomas Shoal, which is called Ayungin

from the western Philippine province of Palawan, and about 700 miles (more than 1,000 kilometers) from southern China. China's Foreign Ministry says Beijing has "indisputable sovereignty" over the shoal. □

## Arab League delays meeting on joint military force

**CAIRO (AP)** — The Arab League has postponed a meeting of member state defense ministers who were scheduled to ratify a protocol for a new joint military force to intervene in troubled areas in the region, the organization said in a statement Wednesday.

Arab League countries will decide later on a new date for the meeting, which had been sched-

uled for Thursday, the statement said. Members had formally announced the agreement in March, and drafted a protocol for it in May.

The delay comes as the idea of an Arab joint force is already being tested in Yemen, where an ad hoc Saudi-led and U.S.-backed coalition has been targeting Iran-backed Shiite rebels and their allies.

Experts say a new force

would have difficulty reaching consensus on intervention in cases like Libya, where different Arab countries support rival parties.

Members already reportedly disagree over whether the force should be headquartered in Cairo, the home of the Arab League. Qatar and Algeria reportedly object to the location. Qatar, a wealthy Gulf nation with huge re-

serves of natural gas, and Egypt, which has the Arab world's largest standing army, have been at odds since the military overthrew Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, who Qatar backed.

Countries that requested the Thursday meeting be postponed include Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Iraq, according to the statement. □



## Venezuela, Colombia vow more cooperation in border dispute

**PEDRO MENDOZA**

**Associated Press**

**CARTAGENA, Colombia (AP)** —

The foreign ministers of Colombia and Venezuela promised to increase cooperation Wednesday following talks to ease heightened tensions caused by the closure of a major border crossing and a weeklong crackdown on Colombian migrants and smugglers.

Diplomats left the meeting in this Caribbean coastal resort without announcing a decision to re-open the border crossing or end the deportations from Venezuela, only saying that defense officials from the two countries would talk in the coming days to form a joint plan for border security.

Meanwhile, in the Colombian city of Cucuta, residents complained of long gas lines as Venezuela's security offensive cuts off trade, legal and otherwise, between the two nations.

Across the border, scores of Colombians packed their belongings into suitcases and prepared for an army escort out of Venezuela, joining the estimated 1,000 of their compatriots who have already been deported.

Donamaris Ramirez, the mayor of Cucuta, says he plans to order gas stations to remain open 24 hours to attend to demand nor-

mally met by curbside smugglers who purchase gasoline in Venezuela at less than a penny a gallon and resell it for huge profits in Colombia.

With two main border crossings closed, the underground economy has come to a halt, satisfying Venezuelan officials who have long blamed transnational mafias for widespread shortages but also jeopardizing the livelihood of tens of thousands of poor Colombians who depend on the black market. On Tuesday, a group of 100 Colombians fled the border town of San Antonio del Tachira by wading across a knee-deep river with their possession, everything from TVs to doors, slung across their backs.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos offered to help returning Colombians find work during a visit Wednesday to an emergency shelter in Cucuta overrun with deportees, and promised deported citizens a subsidy of about \$80 to help them land on their feet.

Earlier, in a speech in Bogota, he ran through a series of economic and crime statistics, everything from projections Venezuela's economy will shrink 7 percent this year to widespread shortages comparable to those found in war



**Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro gestures during a news conference at Miraflores presidential palace in Caracas, Venezuela. The foreign ministers of Colombia and Venezuela promised to increase cooperation Wednesday following talks to ease heightened tensions caused by the closure of a major border crossing and a weeklong crackdown on Colombian migrants and smugglers.**

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

zones like Syria, in a sharp retort to the aggressive rhetoric coming from Caracas in recent days

"Venezuela's problems are made in Venezuela, they're not made in Colombia or other parts of the world," Santos told a forum of former presidents from around the world.

While some 5 million Colombians live in Venezuela, the security offensive has focused on a few towns

near the border where Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro blames migrant gangs for rampant crime and smuggling that has caused widespread shortages. The crisis was triggered a week ago when gunmen Maduro claimed were paramilitaries linked to former Colombian President Alvaro Uribe shot and wounded three army officers on an anti-smuggling patrol.

The socialist leader has vowed to keep two normally busy international bridges closed, and possibly extend restrictions to other transit crossings until Colombian authorities help bring order to the porous, 1,400-mile (2,200 kilometer) border. A state of emergency allowing the government to restrict peoples' movement for up to 60 days has been declared in six states. □

## Top Argentine presidential candidates talk about economy



**Daniel Scioli, the provincial governor of Buenos Aires who's running for president, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The presidential election is set for Oct. 25 this year. Scioli on Wednesday presented different visions of how to improve the South American nation's economy.**

(AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)

**PETER PRENGAMAN**

**Associated Press**

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)** —

Argentina's top presidential candidates on Wednesday presented different visions of how to improve the South American nation's economy at a time of soaring inflation and a sharp devaluation of the peso. Ruling party candidate Daniel Scioli, the designated successor of President Cristina Fernandez, said the natural-resource-rich country should increase production of its top commodities and create development plans for each. Scioli, a former vice president and currently the

governor of the Buenos Aires province, also argued that the nation of 41 million was on sure footing. Scioli frequently walks a fine line, calling for change while being careful not to alienate Fernandez supporters who are key to his chances of winning Oct. 25.

"Let's build on top of what has already been built," Scioli said. Mauricio Macri, the outgoing mayor of Buenos Aires and leading opposition candidate, is the clear favorite of the business community, in part because of promises to lift restrictions on buying U.S. dollars and lower export taxes. □





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**Aruba's Restaurant Week puts Spotlight on 6 AWD Restaurants!**



**PALM BEACH** - The week of August 26 - September 2nd is going to be truly delicious. Why? Because it is Restaurant Week, a concept that allows locals and visi-

tors to sample three-course menus at six of Aruba's great restaurants. Diners will be treated to a super deal at popular Aruba Wine And Dine (AWD)'s restaurants,

Tango Argentine Grill, Café the Plaza, Fishes & More, MooMba Beach, Salt & Pepper and Hadicurari. The Restaurant Week entails that guests can eat a

three-course culinary dinner for a ridiculously low price. The chefs of Hadicurari, MooMba Beach, Café the Plaza, Salt & Pepper, Fishes & More and Tango

Argentine Grill are putting their best feet forward to present their menus, attracting lots of happy diners to their restaurants. Part of the Restaurant Week's profits will go to SABA, the parent organization of three homes for Aruba's elderly. It is just one more reason to go out to dinner during this super special week.

If possible, make your reservations in advance – this will get you the best seats in the house if you specify what you are looking for. Go on, and do it now at [www.arubawineanddine.com](http://www.arubawineanddine.com) and start looking forward to a great menu at an incredibly low price. The fourth Restaurant Week is a showcase for Fun Miles as well as all the AWD restaurants. Sponsors include Mezzacorona, Compra, Balashi Chill and Concha y Toro.

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guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were sisters Elle and Noelle de Martini, Amanda Karas, and Robert and Barbara Fleming. Loyal members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites, these guests love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants and the safety. The

say Aruba feels like a second home and that the team at the Renaissance Ocean Suites is like a family to them and the Resort is paradise. The certificates were presented by Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mr. Tino Daal of the Activities Department of Renaissance Ocean Suites. □



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--"This restaurant was recommended by fellow beach goers and we were glad they told us about it.



We wound up going there 3 times in 2 weeks! We had the fish on 2 occasions and ribs the other. We sat outside twice the place was so busy. Make a reservation, since the people were just pouring in. Nightly specials more in a serving than you could eat. Everything was very good and highly recommend. Also, there is entertainment - we enjoyed hearing it when we were inside but we couldn't hear outside. Very friendly and efficient staff and highly recommend for an evening out." --Reviewed February 10, 2015 by Myirish,

Chicago IL.

--"Easily reached from the high rise area, this was a neat restaurant with a definite Dutch flavor. Nightly specials and wide variety on the menu." --Reviewed April 13, 2015 by Swimmer-smom14, Silver Springs MD.

--"They have many different theme nights, loved the Schnitzel night and my wife loved the all you can eat Ribs night. Ask for Ilse as your server, she is great! --Reviewed April 1, 2015 by Golderd.

--"After 15 years of vaca-

tions in Aruba we have dined in most of the restaurants on the Island worthy of a visit. Our timeshare has evolved from 2 weeks to our current 4 weeks so over those many years we have witnessed many changes in the dining scene. Tourism is the primary if not the only source of income for the Aruban resident so if you're in the restaurant business you better be good or you most certainly will be gone. We heard about Barneys from a friend and then from another friend so we decided to give it a shot. We were a party of 6 and were seated on time. We were told that the sirloin tips with roasted veggies and gravy were very good and that's what 3 of us ordered. The other entree that was touted was the grouper crusted with cheese which is what our wives ordered. No risk takers in our group. My sirloin tips were great and all who went with that meal

agreed it was tasty and a good portion. My wife and the other 2 women raved about the grouper. I tasted my wife's and it was very good. Our meal was very good and reasonably priced. In fact Barney's is one of 2 restaurants that we visited twice during our 4 weeks on the island and we can't wait to return next year.--Reviewed March 30, 2015, by JackF, New York, NY.

Walk-ins are welcomed if seats are available but it really is necessary now-a-days to make a reservation to insure you have a table. You can contact your concierge desk at your hotel/time share or call them directly at 586-5420. Feel free to check them out on Facebook at Barneys Restaurant to see what's going on. So, what are you waiting for? MAKE THAT RESERVATION TODAY!!!!☐



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Mr. Mark and Mrs. Mary Schindel and their daughter Ms. Sophia Schindel of Millstone Township, New Jersey. The Schindel family loves Aruba very much because

of the friendly people of Aruba, the beaches, the beautiful weather, the Hilton and its fabulous staff and restaurants, and our 'One Happy Island' in general. The certificates were

presented by Mr. Ernest Giel and Ms. Nadia Dabboussi representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with staff members and management of the Hilton Aruba Beach Resort. □

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**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

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Rafael Nadal, of Spain, reacts during a match against Feliciano Lopez, of Spain, at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Aug. 20, 2015, in Mason, Ohio. Lopez won 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (3).

Associated Press

## US OPEN 2015: Nadal says his struggles are on him, not team

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Rafael Nadal has won 14 Grand Slam titles while coached by his uncle.

A few difficult months won't change his loyalty to Toni Nadal.

"I have (had) an amazing career with the team that I have today, the same team from the beginning," the younger Nadal said Tuesday. "So my feeling is if something's not working well it's not because of your team — it's because of myself. The one thing I have to change is myself." That means playing more aggressively. And that can come with greater confidence.

Nadal insists his game is coming around, even if it doesn't show much in recent results. Then again, considering he was publicly voicing self-doubt before the French Open, this new assuredness is a notable difference.

Continued on Page 18

# Van Niekerk Express



## South African takes 400 gold in stunning time

South Africa's Wayde Van Niekerk falls to the track after winning the men's 400m final at the World Athletics Championships at the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015.

Associated Press  
Page 20



## Mahan begins long road in the playoffs, with history on side

**DOUG FERGUSON**

**AP Golf Writer**

**EDISON, N.J. (AP)** — Recent history is what gives Hunter Mahan a level of optimism he would not ordinarily have at The Barclays.

For the first time in 10 years, he is at risk of ending a PGA Tour season without once finishing in the top three. For the first time in more than six years, Mahan is out of the top 50 in the world ranking. He starts the FedEx Cup playoffs at No. 71, his lowest position since this series began in 2007.

Mahan is the only player to have never missed a play-off event. That streak is in jeopardy.

He also knows how quickly it can turn around.

"Takes one good week to propel you up the board," Mahan said. "And you can change the schematic of the whole thing."

A year ago, Mahan was No. 62 in the FedEx Cup when he closed with a 65 and won The Barclays. That moved him to No. 1 in the standings, assured him a spot in the Tour Championship and impressed Tom Watson enough that he used a captain's pick on Mahan for the Ryder Cup. "You can have an OK season and all of a sudden



**Hunter Mahan hits on the ninth hole during the third round of the PGA Championship golf tournament Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.**

**Associated Press**

you play good at the right time and be a FedEx Cup champion," Mahan said. "It does feel like a late-season push here. You can kind of forget where you've been and you can really be right here because you know good play right now means a lot."

One good week.

That's what motivates players like Davis Love III and Jason Gore, who only qualified for the playoffs last week in North Carolina.

It's not so much an issue for Masters and U.S. Open champion Jordan Spieth, for PGA champion Jason Day and others who have played so well all year that they are virtually a lock for the Tour Championship at East Lake. Because the points are reset for the final event, whoever wins at East Lake stands the best chance at capturing the \$10 million bonus.

Only the top 125 in the FedEx Cup are eligible for

the playoffs, and there are some big names missing. Tiger Woods failed to qualify for the third time in the last five years. Ernie Els and Geoff Ogilvy didn't make it for the first time. Neither did Martin Kaymer and Graeme McDowell.

The Barclays features only a 120-man field because five players chose not to play. Rory McIlroy wanted to give his ankle another week off to make sure there are no issues. He can afford to

miss it at No. 9 in the FedEx Cup. Also missing are Sergio Garcia, Louis Oosthuizen, Francesco Molinari and Retief Goosen. Molinari, whose wife just had a baby, is No. 99 and so his season is over. Goosen is out of the top 100 and is done for the season.

Only the top 100 advance to Deutsche Bank Championship next week, and the top 70 move on to the BMW Championship. The top 30 go to the Tour Championship, a golden goose for some because it puts them in the majors for next year.

The change in the points system this year meant a little less volatility.

Points used to be worth five times as much as the regular season. Now they're worth four times as much. What hasn't changed is the need to play good golf, and the urgency depends on what kind of season a player has had.

Day and Dustin Johnson got off to a rough start on Wednesday. Day tweaked his back moving an item under his motor home, and the Australian chose to sit out the pro-am as a precaution so he would be ready to go at The Barclays. □

## US OPEN 2015

**Continued from Page 17**

"One of my best things during the whole of my career has been my mental strength," he said. "It is something I was not able to find that consistency during this year, but I start to see that I am again with that mentality, with that self-confidence."

Nadal is seeded just eighth going into the U.S. Open, which starts Monday. He won the tournament the last time he played in New York but was unable to defend his title last year because of a right wrist injury. Then he was sidelined again by appendix surgery.

His run of five consecutive French Open titles ended with a quarterfinal loss to Novak Djokovic, before he was upset in the sec-

ond round at Wimbledon by 102nd-ranked qualifier Dustin Brown.

This month, the 29-year-old Nadal failed to make it past the quarterfinals in two hard-court warmups. But he sees the foundation for greater success, not just in the next two weeks but well beyond.

"I feel great physically, and that's important for me because that's giving me the confidence in my body that's always been very important (for) the intensity of my movements," Nadal said. "If I'm healthy and I have the chance to keep working the way I'm working now, I believe that I can keep competing well for the next couple of years and keep having chances in the big events."

He was in Manhattan on Tuesday taking part in a very different kind of event: a strip-tennis match in a



**In this Aug. 14, 2015, file photo, sweat pours off the face of Rafael Nadal of Spain as he plays Kei Nishikori of Japan during the quarterfinals at the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Montreal.**

**Associated Press**

court set up in Bryant Park. See, Nadal is an underwear model for Tommy Hilfiger. A shirtless Nadal also appears in ads for the company's fragrances and "tailored" line.

Hilfiger himself said the ten-

nis star was an appealing endorser because of his sense of style and of course his muscular build. Hilfiger, who serves on the ATP's Business Advisory Board, believes fans will view Nadal as a champion no mat-

ter what happens the rest of his career.

But, Hilfiger added, noting how Roger Federer rebounded from a rough patch in recent years, "I can see him coming back. And we're betting on it." For now, Nadal isn't making any bold pronouncements going into the U.S. Open. "I will be arrogant if I say I feel ready for the title now after not having a great season," he said. "I don't want to say that. I say I am working hard every day. I know I am playing better and I am feeling better mentally than a few months ago."

"Then (I) need results. I feel closer than ever during the season to be where I want to be. So let's be patient. Let's keep working with that goal and with that intensity, and I hope that helps and works in a not very long period of time." □



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## Nike fights subpoena in lawsuit against Armstrong

JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

**AUSTIN, Texas (AP)** — Athletic apparel giant Nike Inc. is fighting subpoenas for financial documents and witness depositions in the federal government's lawsuit against former cyclist Lance Armstrong, arguing they are irrelevant to the case and could compromise trade secrets. Armstrong and the government both have subpoenaed Nike, which was one of Armstrong's major sponsors until it dropped him in 2012 after his use of performance-enhancing drugs was exposed.

The government is suing Armstrong to recover more than \$30 million the U.S. Postal Service paid to sponsor his teams from 1998-2004. Damages could go as high as \$100 million. The lawsuit was initially filed by former Armstrong teammate Floyd Landis, who stands to col-



In this July 6, 2010, file photo, Lance Armstrong arrives prior to the start of the third stage of the Tour de France cycling race in Wanze, Belgium.  
Associated Press

lect a portion of any penalty against Armstrong. The subpoenas seek Nike financial records and documents of any discussions about Armstrong's doping. In court filings this week in Portland, Oregon, the

company asked a federal judge to modify the subpoenas to sharply limit evidence and keep any documents or testimony provided secret under a protective order. Armstrong wants records

of how profitable Nike's sponsorship was for the company, and hopes to draw parallels to his claim that the U.S. Postal Service made more money off him than it paid him. Nike lawyers said the company's

sponsorship records are tightly held trade secrets, and potential disclosure would help competitors.

"Nike takes considerable effort to maintain the secrecy of its records regarding athlete sponsorships," company lawyers wrote.

The company also argued that its sponsorship of Armstrong is irrelevant to any deal he and his team had with the Postal Service.

The government wants Nike to turn over any communications with Armstrong about performance-enhancing drug use and records the company previously gave a federal criminal grand jury that investigated Armstrong in 2010-2011. Nike lawyers insisted the company didn't know about Armstrong's doping, which he has now admitted publicly and in sworn testimony.

The subpoena dispute was set for a Sept. 29 hearing. □



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During the Restaurant Week there is a wine special in some of our restaurants: Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio or Moscato served by the glass for \$ 5.-- or by the bottle for \$ 22.50. So do try those great restaurant and enjoy!

## Bolt leaves 'em laughing and a new star comes out in 400

**EDDIE PELLIS**

**AP National Writer**

**BEIJING (AP)** — Long after two of the all-time greats at 400 meters had left the track in second and third place, the winner was sprawled on the ground, gasping for breath and getting his pulse checked by a medic.

This is how 23-year-old Wayde van Niekerk of South Africa made a name for himself at the world championships Wednesday night, while also inserting that name on the "People to Watch" list for next year's Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

A muggy evening at the Bird's Nest started with Usain Bolt laughing as he cruised into the finish of his winning 200-meter semifinal heat to set up another gold-medal showdown with Justin Gatlin. It ended with van Niekerk topping two Olympic and world champions, LaShawn Merritt and Kirani James, before being carted off the track on a stretcher, then loaded into an ambulance.

Van Niekerk was taken to the hospital for precautionary measures, then released later in the evening. "He told us he was going to make mincemeat out of them," said the South African team leader, Peter Lourens.

He did.

In many ways, the 400 is the most brutal race of them all — basically a sprint, but one in which the sprinter has to also focus on tactics and conserving energy during a 40-some-second trip around the track.

Van Niekerk didn't worry much about that last part. Running out of Lane 6, he had already made up the lag to the runner on his right, Luguelin Santos, after the first 50 meters. And by

the time van Niekerk hit the straightaway, there was a bathtub-sized chunk of daylight between himself and Merritt.

Front-runners like that often fade late, but this one didn't. Van Niekerk finished in 43.48 seconds, the sixth-best performance of all time. He won by .17 over Merritt, the 29-year-old, two-time world and 2008 Olympic champion, who

"rough" season.

On yet another disappointing night for the Americans, second was the best they could manage.

Shamier Little and Cassandra Tate finished 2-3 in the 400-meter hurdles to round out the U.S. haul and bring the total to nine medals over the first five days of the championships.

There's only one gold in that mix, which leaves the

its first victory in a field event at worlds or the Olympics.

"I'm sure, as we continue, we will have many Kenyans coming up in the field events and the sprints," Yego said. "We have talent there."

Other gold medalists included Cuba's Yarisley Silva in the pole vault and Zuzana Hejnova of the Czech Republic in the 400 hurdles. Meanwhile, a few more

pionships. It looks like people are tired."

Not among the fatigued was Gatlin. The American sprinter enjoyed another easy run in the 200-meter semifinals to set up another showdown with Bolt on Thursday night.

Gatlin ran his semifinal heat in 19.87, the second-fastest semifinal ever run at worlds. Bolt ran his in 19.95, and was basically jogging to



**South Africa's Wayde Van Niekerk, left, and United States' Lashawn Merritt bump fist before the start of a men's 400m semifinal at the World Athletics Championships at the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing, Monday, Aug. 24, 2015.**

**Associated Press**

himself posted a personal best.

Wouldn't he expect to win the gold medal with that sort of time?

"If you'd said I'd run 43.6, I'd say, 'Yeah,'" the American said. "To go under what I got under, it's a great race. He came out and ran well. We're animals. We're warriors."

Merritt raised two fingers after the race, happy to have finished second to top off what he called a

United States a surprising five wins behind the leader, Kenya.

The day actually started off with bad news for Kenya, when a hurdler and a 400-meter runner from the country were suspended for doping. It ended much better thanks to wins by Hyvin Kiyeng Jepkemoi in the women's steeplechase and Julius Yego in the javelin. Yego's throw of 92.72 meters was the longest in 14 years and gave Kenya

U.S. medal hopefuls walked away empty-handed.

They included four-time national champion Emma Coburn in the steeplechase and two-time Olympic medalist Jenn Suhr in the pole vault. Suhr pulled her groin during warmups and couldn't clear 4.80 meters.

"There's more physio tape going around right now than I've seen," Suhr said of the U.S. training room. "It's been a hard world cham-

the finish when he turned to his left and saw South African sprinter Anaso Jobodwana making a funny face at him. The two shared a laugh.

"It's the third time I've been in a semifinal with him," said Jobodwana, who has now run next to Bolt in two world championships and the London Olympics. "I'd (always) been right next to him and kind of making him run, even though he really wasn't really running." □



# Mets top Phillies 6-5 for fifth straight win

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Michael Cuddyer hit a go-ahead two-run, pinch-hit single in the sixth inning and Noah Syndergaard finally won on the road as the Mets beat the Phillies for their fifth straight victory. Yoenis Cespedes homered for the Mets, who have won 17 of their last 23 to remain 5½ games up on the Nationals in the NL East. Ryan Howard and Freddy Galvis homered for Philadelphia, which has lost seven straight to the Mets. Syndergaard (8-6) did just enough to earn his first road victory of the season in his 10th try. He entered 0-5 with a 5.05 ERA away from Citi Field while 8-1 with a 1.82 at home. In five innings, Syndergaard allowed four runs, two earned, and four hits with nine strikeouts and two walks.

Jerome Williams (4-10) took the loss.

## NATIONALS 8, PADRES 3

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Stephen Strasburg allowed two hits over six innings, Ryan Zimmerman hit a grand slam and the Nationals beat the Padres. Wilson Ramos also homered for the Nationals, who are chasing the first-place New York Mets in the NL East.

Strasburg (8-6) struck out seven and walked one. The right-hander retired the final 15 batters he faced. Strasburg is 5-1 with a 1.51 ERA in his last seven starts and 5-1 in his career against the Padres.

Zimmerman connected in the sixth off Bud Norris for an 8-2 lead. It was his fifth career slam, the first since 2013.

Jedd Gyorko homered twice but San Diego lost its second straight after five consecutive wins.

James Shields (9-6) gave up four runs, eight hits and four walks in 5 2/3 innings. San Diego has lost 12 of his 15 starts since June 9.

## ROCKIES 5, BRAVES 1

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Chad Bettis pitched five solid innings in his return from the disabled list and the Rockies scored four unearned

runs, taking advantage of three errors by Atlanta third baseman Adonis Garcia in a victory over the Braves. Bettis (6-4) allowed five hits, walked two and struck out four in his first big league start since July 18. He was coming back from right elbow inflammation.

The Rockies scored two runs in the first after Garcia misplayed a grounder to his left that could have been an inning-ending double play. Garcia let Nick Hundley's grounder get right through him to start the fourth, allowing the Rockies to tack on two more runs when DJ LeMahieu came through with a two-out, bases-loaded single.

Atlanta starter Mike Foltynewicz (4-6) went five innings and took the loss.

## DODGERS 5, REDS 1

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Alex Wood took a shutout into the sixth inning, and Justin Turner and Jimmy Rollins each hit two-run home runs as the Dodgers snapped their five-game losing streak with a win over the Reds.

Rollins also doubled and scored while the NL West-leading Dodgers matched their run total from their previous four games combined.

The Reds have lost 10 of their last 11 games.

Cincinnati got its lead-off batter on base in four of the first five innings, but never pushed anybody past second with Wood (9-8) on the mound. He left after Brandon Phillips singled with two outs in the sixth, and reliever Chris Hatcher then gave up Todd Frazier's RBI double.

John Lamb (0-2) allowed three runs in five innings.

## MARLINS 5, PIRATES 2

**MIAMI (AP)** — Major-league batting leader Dee Gordon tied a career high with four stolen bases, had two infield hits and scored twice, helping the Marlins beat the Pirates.

Miami's Brad Hand (4-3) pitched into the ninth inning. He came into the game 7-20 as a starter, worst among all active

pitchers, according to STATS, but has won three of his past four starts.

A.J. Ramos came on with two on and no outs in the ninth and earned his 22nd save in 27 chances.

Gordon scored the Marlins' first run and reached on a bunt single to begin their three-run sixth against Charlie Morton (8-5). Gordon turned two double plays at second base, including a nifty one started by third baseman Martin Prado.

Gordon hiked his average to .333, and he leads the majors with 156 hits.

## CARDINALS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 1

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Tommy Pham had his second career three-hit game, Jaime Garcia pitched six strong innings and St. Louis cruised past Arizona.

Three days after his first three-hit game, Pham singled twice and got his second career triple. He scored three times.

Six players had RBIs for the Cardinals, two apiece for Jhonny Peralta, Jason Heyward and Yadier Molina. The Cardinals' Peter Bourjos' got his first career pinch-hit home run.

Garcia (6-4) allowed a run and four hits, striking out six and walking one. The Cardinals, 35 games above .500, earned their MLB-best 80th victory and lengthened their lead to five games over second-place Pittsburgh in the NL Central. Robbie Ray (3-10) lasted three innings plus two batters. He allowed six runs and five hits. Ray walked five, hit a batter and struck out one.

## CUBS 8, GIANTS 5

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Kyle Schwarber, Miguel Montero and Starlin Castro all hit home runs in support of another solid outing from Jake Arrieta, and Chicago won its sixth straight.

Schwarber's towering, three-run homer in the third set the tone for the Cubs, who have won 21 of 25 games to pull 7 1/2 games ahead of the Giants for the second wild-card spot. □



New York Mets' Daniel Murphy (28) celebrates with Michael Cuddyer after scoring on a walk by Travis d'Arnaud in the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2015, in Philadelphia. The Mets won 6-5. Associated Press

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FRI 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00  
SAT 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40 | 12:00  
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:20 | 9:40

**NO ESCAPE**  
MON-THURS 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30  
FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50  
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50  
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

**SINISTER II**  
MON-THURS 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25  
FRI 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40  
SAT 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40  
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25

**STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON**  
MON-THURS 5:50 | 8:50  
FRI 5:50 | 8:50  
SAT 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50  
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50

**HITMAN AGENT 47**  
MON-THURS 8:40  
FRI 8:40 | 11:15  
SAT 8:40 | 11:15  
SUN & HOL 8:40

**VACATION**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20  
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35  
SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35  
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20

**THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-THURS 4:00 | 6:00  
FRI 4:00 | 6:00  
SAT 3:20 | 6:00  
SUN & HOL 3:20 | 6:00

**FANT 4STIC**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-THURS 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30  
FRI 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45  
SAT 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45  
SUN & HOL 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30

**MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION**  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-THURS 3:55 | 6:15 | 9:10  
FRI 3:55 | 6:15 | 9:10  
SAT 3:25 | 6:15 | 9:10  
SUN & HOL 3:25 | 6:15 | 9:10

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## AL Capsules

# Astros rout Yankees 15-1 in mismatch of AL contenders

**The Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Carlos Gomez and Evan Gattis both homered and drove in four runs, sending Dallas Keuchel and the Houston Astros to a 15-1 blowout of the New York Yankees that briefly got testy Tuesday night.

Keuchel (15-6) held New York scoreless for the second time this season and became the first 15-game winner in the American League.

Gomez busted out of a hitting slump along with several teammates and rankled the Yankees with his flashy style.

The center fielder jawed with players in New York's dugout after flipping his bat aside when he flied out in the sixth inning, then stood nose to nose with young catcher John Ryan Murphy before they were separated. Both benches and bullpens emptied, but the teams quickly went their respective ways without any pushing or shoving.

His next time up, Gomez launched a three-run homer into the Yankees' bullpen in right-center to cap a six-

run seventh.

**BLUE JAYS 6, RANGERS 5**

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Troy Tulowitzki had a game-tying RBI single in the ninth inning before Adrian Beltre's throwing error allowed another Toronto run to score as the AL East-leading Blue Jays rallied for a victory over the Rangers.

Rangers closer Shawn Tolleson walked two of the first three batters he faced. After pinch-hitter Justin Smoak flied out, Tulowitzki looped a single to left to tie the game 5-5. Josh Donaldson then hit a high chopper to Beltre, the four-time Gold Glove third baseman who fielded the ball before a wide throw to first base.

It was only the second blown save this season for Tolleson (5-3), who has 25 saves and had converted his last 12 chances.

LaTroy Hawkins (3-1) gave up three singles in a scoreless eighth before Roberto Osuna worked the ninth for his 15th save in 16 chances.

**ANGELS 8, TIGERS 7**

DETROIT (AP) — Albert Pujols homered and the Angels scored three times on wild pitches in a victory over the



**Houston Astros' Colby Rasmus (28) celebrates with Carlos Gomez (30) after scoring on Gomez's seventh-inning, three-run home run in a baseball game against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium in New York, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2015.**

**Associated Press**

Tigers.

Both teams came into the game with four-game losing streaks, dropping the Angels 1 ½ games behind Texas for the second American League wild-card spot and the Tigers to sixth, 5 ½ games

back.

Jered Weaver (6-9) picked up the win, despite allowing six runs on seven hits in 5 2-3 innings. Weaver struck out one batter and didn't issue a walk.

Huston Street got the final four outs for his 30th save.

Alfredo Simon (11-8) struggled badly, giving up eight runs on nine hits, four walks and three wild pitches. He struck out two.

**INDIANS 11, BREWERS 6**

CLEVELAND (AP) — Josh Tomlin shook off three home runs and lasted six innings to win his season debut at home and Michael Brantley homered twice, leading the Indians to a win over the Brewers. Tomlin (2-1) allowed solo homers in the first and second innings before retiring 12 straight until the sixth, when Ryan Braun hit a two-run shot.

The right-hander was making his third start since being activated from the disabled list following shoulder surgery in March. He had been 0-5 in eight starts since his last win at Progressive Field. Brantley hit a pair of two-run shots for the Indians, who chased Wily Peralta (4-8) in the third inning. Jason Kipnis, who came in tied for the AL batting lead, had three hits

and rookie Francisco Lindor had three RBIs for Cleveland.

Jonathan Lucroy homered twice and Domingo Santana connected for Milwaukee.

**TWINS 11, RAYS 7**

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Brian Dozier, Miguel Sano and Eddie Rosario all homered as Minnesota beat the Rays for the Twins' fifth straight win.

Dozier gave Minnesota a 7-5 advantage on a two-run drive off reliever Matt Andriese (3-4) in the fourth. It was his third homer in 11 at-bats against Tampa Bay this season.

Eduardo Escobar hit a two-run double during a three-run fifth that extended the Twins' lead to 10-6.

Tampa Bay catcher Curt Casali made it 10-7 on his ninth homer since the All-Star break and 10th overall later in the fifth, but appeared to take an awkward step near first base and had to leave the game after slowly going around the bases.

Sano opened the scoring on a towering three-run drive to center off Nathan Karns in the first.

J.R. Graham (1-1) allowed one run over two-thirds of an inning for his first major league win.

**ROYALS 3, ORIOLES 2**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kendrys Morales hit a solo homer, Mike Moustakas and Eric Hosmer also drove in runs and the Royals leaned on their bullpen to beat the Orioles. Danny Duffy (7-6) dodged trouble for most of 5 2-3 innings, allowing two runs on five hits and two walks. The left-hander struck out five in a start that began in crisp efficiency and ended with the Orioles threatening to pull ahead in the sixth inning. Luke Hochevar calmed things down with an inning of relief, though. Kelvin Herrera had no trouble with the rest of the seventh and eighth, and Wade Davis pitched a perfect ninth in place of closer Greg Holland to earn his 12th save.

Miguel Gonzalez (9-10) allowed all three runs on six hits and three walks in 4 1-3 innings. □

## Australian Ewan wins 5th Vuelta stage, Dumoulin gains lead

**ALCALA DE GUADAIRA, Spain (AP)** — Caleb Ewan of Australia charged to the front in the final hundred meters (yards) to win the fifth stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Wednesday, while Tom Dumoulin did enough to pass Colombian Esteban Chaves for the overall lead.

Dumoulin gained the leader's red jersey by finishing just five spots ahead of Chaves as the peloton crossed the line, enough for a one-second lead heading into Thursday's stage at the three-week Vuelta.

The 21-year-old Ewan got past favorite John Degenkolb of Germany in the closing stages of the mostly flat 167.3-kilometer (103.9-mile) leg from Rota

to Alcala de Guadaira to secure his first major victory in 3 hours, 57 minutes and 28 seconds.

Peter Sagan of Slovakia, another pre-race favorite, tried to make a move as the leaders approached the finish but it was only good for third.

"This is by far the happiest day of my career," Ewan said. "To beat some of the best sprinters in the world, especially guys like Sagan and Degenkolb, it really means a lot to me."

Tour de France winner Chris Froome of Britain gained some ground on the leaders but was 35 seconds back. Nairo Quintana of Colombia was 39 second behind.

Nicolas Roche of Ireland remained third in the over-

all standings, 16 seconds back, with countryman Daniel Martin fourth, 27 seconds behind Dumoulin. Dumoulin managed to finish in a pack in front of Chaves, gaining the six seconds he needed to move into the overall lead. Chaves had taken the red jersey on Sunday's second stage, the first that counted toward individual times.

Thursday's sixth stage should prove more difficult to the riders. It takes them from Cordoba to Sierra de Cazorla in a 200.3-kilometer (124.4-mile) leg which has no significant climbs but also no flat sections. There will be a steady rise in the final 3 kilometers, which should give climbers an edge. □



# Microsoft says Windows 10 now on 75M devices

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Microsoft said Wednesday that its new Windows 10 software is running on more than 75 million computers, tablets and other devices — in just under a month since the operating system was released.

Analysts say that's a good start, although the company is hoping to get the software installed on a billion devices over the next three years. Microsoft Corp., which is best known for making software for personal computers, is hoping Windows 10 will help it rebuild loyalty among users who are increasingly relying on tablets, smartphones and other devices.

PC sales have been shrinking in recent years and that trend is likely to continue, according to a new forecast from International Data Corp. Analysts at IDC predicted Monday that 2016 will mark the fifth consecutive year of declining PC sales worldwide.

Computer-makers are hoping to get a boost from consumer interest in Windows 10, which

manufacturers are making available on new machines being sold this fall. But IDC noted in its report that Microsoft is also offering the new software as a free download for people who want to install it on their existing PCs.

The free upgrades probably account for the bulk of the 75 million devices now using Windows 10, said analyst Patrick Moorhead of Moor Insights & Strategy, although he said more new models will likely be sold this fall.

Some of the machines getting Windows 10 are quite old. Microsoft executive Yusuf Mehdi, who released the new figures Monday, said in a Twitter post that, "even some devices manufactured in 2007 have upgraded to Windows 10."

Along with new features, the Redmond, Washington, software giant designed Windows 10 to fix some unpopular elements of Windows 8, the operating system's last version. It's intended to work on PCs, tablets, smartphones and other devices, although the company released it for PCs and tablets first. □

# Tuneln radio app starts \$8 tier with MLB, soccer, audiobooks

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Tuneln, the app that gives users free access to thousands of live radio stations around the world, is launching an \$8-a-month premium subscription service that throws in ad-free listening, audiobooks and live play-by-play coverage of Major League Baseball and soccer from the Premier League and the Bundesliga.

The seemingly disparate offer caters to listeners who have varied tastes, says Tuneln CEO John Donham. That could be news in the morning, music at night, live sports whenever a good game is on, and a good book for long commutes.

"It turns out people want more than just one thing," he says.

The package is meant to emulate the kind of mix one gets from satellite radio giant Sirius XM: premium sports, talk shows and commercial-free music. "We're out to build a worldwide version of that," Donham says. The offer launches in the U.S. on Tuesday, as well as in Canada, where it'll cost 9 Canadian dollars a month, and in the U.K., where it'll be 6 pounds a month.

The offer adds 40,000 audiobooks from HarperCollins, Penguin Random House and Scholastic to the few dozen public-domain books already in the app. New titles include Cheryl Strayed's "Wild," Sheryl Sandberg's "Lean In" and George R.R. Martin's "A Game of Thrones."

Ad-free listening is initially tailored to 600 Internet radio stations. Terrestrial radio stations in the U.S. and abroad are planned to be added in the next few months, Donham says. When a DJ cuts to a commercial break, Tuneln knows how long an ad break will be, and for paying subscribers, it will insert a song of roughly the right length that would fit the station's genre. Plugging the



This undated photo provided by Tuneln shows a mobile photo with a Tuneln app interface.

Associated Press

ad break of terrestrial stations with a song is a technical problem that will take a little more time to work out, he says.

Launching a paid tier in addition to its free ad-supported service is born from the desire to add more content to the site that cannot be paid for simply with ads, Donham says, adding that reducing the number of ads played could actually help push prices up. □

# The suite life: tour the most-exclusive ways to travel

SCOTT MAYEROWITZ

NATHAN GRIFFITHS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) —

For those with unlimited bank accounts, travel has never been so glamorous.

Hotels, airlines and cruise ships are catering to a new group of super-rich travelers who seek privacy and one-of-a-kind amenities most can only dream of — and don't think twice about spending \$20,000 a day or more to get them.

We're talking private elevators, personal shopping assistants, helipads and even their own postal codes. After paring their vacations along with ev-

eryone else during the Great Recession, the wealthiest 20 percent of Americans have increased spending on hotels by 7.1 percent since 2009, according to inflation-adjusted data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The middle 20 percent? Just 1.8 percent. Obviously, most people can't afford such over-the-top vacations. The median household income in the United States is \$52,250, according to the Census Bureau.

So The Associated Press is offering the closest thing — a virtual reality tour of some of the world's most extravagant accommodations:

suites on a Singapore Airlines Airbus A380, Cunard's duplex stateroom aboard the Queen Mary 2 ocean liner, and the Ty Warner Penthouse suite at the Four Seasons hotel in New York. Trust us, we didn't get to spend the night either.

Each space was extensively photographed using the Matterport Pro 3D camera, and then reconstructed for use in virtual reality. Users are able to "walk" through and explore every part of the locations and experience these exclusive locations firsthand.

— HOW TO VIEW AP'S SUITE LIFE EXPERIENCE



This image made using a 3-D camera from Matterport shows the library of the 4,300-square-foot Ty Warner penthouse suite on the 52nd floor of the Four Seasons hotel in New York.

Associated Press

— View the interactive 3D experience online here: <http://interactives.ap.org/2015/suite-life/>

— For a virtual reality ver-

sion of this experience visit the Oculus Store using the Samsung Gear VR and download "The suite life." □



# Wall Street surges, snapping 6-day losing streak

**ALEX VEIGA**  
AP Business Writer

The Dow Jones industrial average rocketed more than 600 points Wednesday, its biggest gain in seven years, snapping a six-day losing streak that had Americans nervously checking their investment balances.

While the surge came as a relief to many, Wall Street professionals warned that more rough days lie ahead, in part because of weakness in China, where signs of an economic slowdown triggered the sell-off that has shaken global markets over the past week.

Heading into Wednesday, the three major U.S. stock indexes had dropped six days in a row, the longest slide in more than three years. The Dow lost about 1,900 points over that period, and more than \$2 trillion in corporate value was wiped out.

On Tuesday, a daylong rally collapsed in the final minutes of trading. On Wednesday, the market opened strong again, and the question all day was whether the rally would hold. It did, and picked up speed just before the closing bell.

The Dow vaulted 619.07 points, or 4 percent, to 16,285.51. It was the Dow's third-biggest point gain of all time and its largest since Oct. 28, 2008, when it soared 889 points.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index, a much broader measure of the stock market, gained 72.90 points, or



**Trader Gregory Rowe works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2015. U.S. stocks closed sharply higher, giving the stock market its best day in close to four years. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 619 points, or 4 percent on Wednesday.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

3.9 percent, to 1,940.51. In percentage terms, it was the best day for the S&P 500 in nearly four years.

The Nasdaq composite rose 191.05 points, or 4.2 percent, to 4,697.54.

Analysts said investors apparently saw the big sell-off as an opportunity to go bargain-hunting and buy low. "That always leads to a bounce or spike in the market," said Quincy Krosby, market strategist for Prudential Financial.

Another factor was believed to be a comment on Wednesday from the head of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, William Dudley, who said that because of the slowdown in China and other reasons,

the case for the Fed to raise rock-bottom interest rates next month for the first time in nearly a decade is "less compelling" than it was a few weeks ago.

"That certainly helped the market," Krosby said.

The U.S. stock market has been on a run-up that has lasted more than six years and pushed the major indexes to all-time highs. Investors worry that the economy could falter if the Fed raises rates too soon.

Over the past few days, ordinary Americans with 401(k)s and other investments have been calling their financial advisers in search of reassurance.

"I wouldn't say it is full-blown panic," said Brennan

Miller, a branch manager for Charles Schwab in Chicago. "Markets have been steadily advancing for several years, and that breeds some complacency. This caught people off guard." Any sign that the market has bottomed out could encourage investors to get back in.

"There's a lot of cash on the sidelines waiting to get in, so to the extent that there's any sort of bottom seen, that will increase people's confidence and boldness," said Erik Davidson, chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank.

Still, the market has a ways to go before it recovers its run of recent losses. □

FTC says Vemma halted for running pyramid scheme

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Federal Trade Commission said Wednesday that Vemma Nutrition has been temporarily shut down for operating a pyramid scheme that promised college students riches if they sold its nutritional drinks, but most ended up losing money.

The consumer protection agency said that Vemma told recruits that they could make as much as \$50,000 per week selling its nutritional beverage Vemma, energy drink Verge or protein shake Bod-e. An initial investment of \$600 was paid for products and business tools and \$150 in Vemma products had to be bought each month to receive bonuses. The FTC said Vemma provided little help on how to sell its products and instead rewarded them for recruiting more people.

Vemma earned \$200 million a year in 2013 and 2014, according to the FTC. A representative from Vemma, which is based in Tempe, Arizona, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A federal court in Arizona temporarily seized the company's assets. Products on Vemma's website could not be bought Wednesday. The website said that products were "temporarily unavailable at this time."

In the complaint, the FTC said Vemma employees visited college campuses and told students that selling the beverages was an alternative to a regular job. Its marketing materials features young people in luxury vehicles, jets and yachts, the FTC said.

Chris and Heidi Powell, two married stars from ABC's reality show "Extreme Weight Loss," appear in promotional videos and packaging of weight-loss drink Bod-e. Representatives of the Powells and ABC did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Along with the company, Vemma CEO Benson Boreyko is also named as a defendant in the complaint, as is Vemma promoter Tom Alkazin and his wife Bethany Alkazin. □

## Angry Birds' Rovio plans layoffs in restructuring

**MATTI HUUHTANEN**  
Associated Press

**HELSINKI (AP)** — Popular mobile games maker Rovio Entertainment said Wednesday it plans to lay off up to 260 people, or about a third of its workforce, because the company took on "too many things" during the past few years.

Rovio says it will restructure the Finnish company to focus on three core activities of games, media and consumer products. The exact

number of layoffs, to be announced later, will affect the organization worldwide, excluding teams in the United States and Canada working on the Angry Birds Movie, scheduled for release in May 2016.

Most of the cutbacks will hit some 230 employees in Finland, said Rovio spokeswoman Kaisa Karvala.

"This is, of course, the saddest day in the history of Rovio," Karvala said. "But it also means we'll be focusing in the future only on

the business sectors we believe in."

CEO Pekka Rantala said Rovio's new game, Angry Birds 2, had been downloaded nearly 50 million times since its July 30 launch.

"While we have gathered good momentum this year ... fundamental changes are needed to ensure Rovio succeeds in its global ambitions to be the leading entertainment company with mobile games at its heart," Rantala said.

"It is certain that a leaner and more agile Rovio is absolutely necessary to move forward and take the company to new successes in the future."

Rovio, founded in 2003, also sacked workers last year as it had expected greater growth from the popular Angry Birds game, which had helped the privately-owned company grow by double-digits. It has estimated that more than 200 million people play the game, launched in 2009. □



## Abercrombie & Fitch 2Q results beat Street's expectations

**NEW ALBANY, Ohio (AP)** — Abercrombie & Fitch's fiscal second-quarter results topped analysts' estimates as a key sales metric improved.

The New Albany, Ohio-based company's stock jumped more than 11 percent in morning trading Wednesday.

Abercrombie & Fitch began tinkering with its image earlier this year in an effort

to reverse declining sales. The teen clothing retailer's changes include no longer having shirtless models at its stores, getting rid of "sexualized" ads, shrinking the logo on its clothing and trying to stock trendier merchandise to keep up with "fast fashion" chains that change their styles more often.

Quarterly revenue for the chain fell to \$817.8 million

from \$890.6 million, but still beat Wall Street forecasts. Ten analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research predicted \$811.3 million in revenue. While sales at stores open at least a year dropped 4 percent, it was better than the 8 percent decline reported in the first quarter. This figure is a key gauge of a retailer's health because it excludes results from stores recently

opened or closed.

For the Hollister brand, such sales edged down 1 percent. This compares with a 6 percent drop in the first quarter. The Abercrombie brand reported a 7 percent decline, compared with a 9 percent fall in the previous quarter.

Abercrombie & Fitch said that it expects same-store sales to continue to improve going forward.

For the period ended Aug. 1, the chain lost \$810,000, or a penny per share. That compares with a profit of \$12.9 million, or 17 cents per share, a year ago. Earnings, adjusted for non-recurring costs, came to 12 cents per share. The results topped analysts' expectations. The average estimate of 15 analysts surveyed by Zacks was for a loss of 8 cents per share. □

## Tentative settlement in dispute over RadioShack gift cards



This photo shows a Radio Shack store in downtown Cincinnati. Attorneys on Wednesday outlined a plan under which some holders of RadioShack gift cards would be paid in full for their outstanding balances.

(AP Photo/Al Behrman)

**RANDALL CHASE**  
AP Business Writer

**WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)** — The old adage about looking a gift horse in the mouth may have a corollary regarding gift cards issued by retailers: Use it or lose it.

In the latest case of gift

card holders caught up in the bankruptcy of a major retailer, attorneys on Wednesday outlined a plan under which some holders of RadioShack gift cards would be paid in full for their outstanding balances. Others who hold

the electronic retailers' gift cards, however, would be left with pennies on the dollar, if anything.

The plan is part of a tentative settlement between Fort Worth-based RadioShack and the Texas attorney general's office,

which filed a complaint on behalf of holders of some \$46 million in unredeemed RadioShack gift cards and has been working with attorneys general in several states to protect their interests.

"We are very pleased that we were able to amicably resolve this dispute.... We think it is eminently fair to consumers," Hal Morris, an assistant attorney general in Texas, told U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Brendan Shannon. Under the proposed settlement, which is subject to approval by the court and the various attorneys general — and a possible challenge by attorneys representing RadioShack card holders in a separate putative class action — card holders would be divided into five categories based on the circumstances in which they obtained their cards.

RadioShack attorney Greg Gordon said people who

purchased cards for themselves or someone else would be given priority status for payment of claims, along with people who "re-loaded" existing cards with more money. A small subset of people who hold cards that were issued between 2000 and 2004 and have since been "deactivated" also would be allowed priority claims. But holders of other cards, including promotional giveaways, and cards given in exchange for merchandise returns or in response to customer service complaints, would be lumped in with general unsecured creditors.

All told, roughly a third of the \$46 million in potential gift card claims would receive priority status and be paid in full, Gordon said.

A key issue yet to be resolved is how gift card holders would be notified about how to file claims, which they would have to submit within a year. □

## Monsanto abandons takeover bid for Swiss rival Syngenta

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Agricultural business giant Monsanto is abandoning its takeover bid for competitor Syngenta AG after the Swiss chemical producer rejected its latest offer of nearly \$47 billion.

A combination with Basel-based Syngenta would have made Monsanto the world's largest producer of farming chemicals, in addition to its market-leading seed business. But the Swiss pesticide maker rejected a series of unsolicited offers from the American com-

pany. Monsanto confirmed Wednesday that it had raised its offer last week to 470 francs per share, or nearly \$47 billion, from a previous offer of about \$45 billion. Additionally, the company confirmed it had raised its proposed breakup fee to \$3 billion from \$2 billion. That's the amount Monsanto would have paid Syngenta if it had been unable to get regulatory approval to complete the deal.

But Monsanto says the enhanced offer "did not

meet Syngenta's financial expectations." The St. Louis-based company said in a statement it would "continue to focus on its growth opportunities built on its existing core business."

Syngenta said in Wednesday that its board of directors unanimously rejected Monsanto's latest offer, which "significantly undervalued the company and was fraught with execution risk."

The company said Monsanto did not adequately address several issues, in-

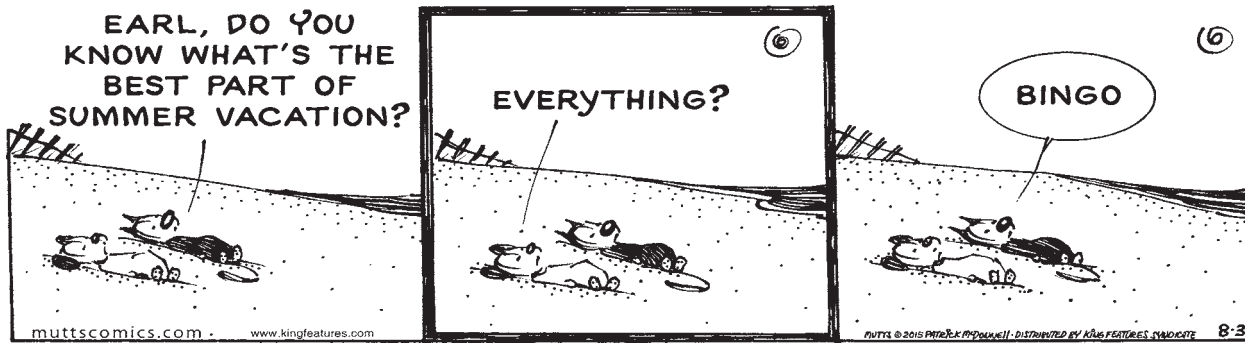
cluding potential cost savings and the risks of incorporating the combined company in the United Kingdom.

Merging with Syngenta would have helped Monsanto diversify its chemical offerings beyond Roundup, the ubiquitous weed killer that long served as the cornerstone of Monsanto's business. Sales of that chemical have been hurt in recent months by concerns about its safety when used in large-scale industrial farming.

In March the International Agency for Research on Cancer labeled the Roundup's key ingredient, glyphosate, a "probable carcinogen." The company has demanded a retraction from the group, a French research arm of the World Health Organization. Monsanto Co. shares rose \$7.66, or 8.6 percent, to close at \$97.08 Wednesday as the broader markets rallied. U.S.-listed shares of Syngenta AG fell more than 13 percent to close at \$67.51. □



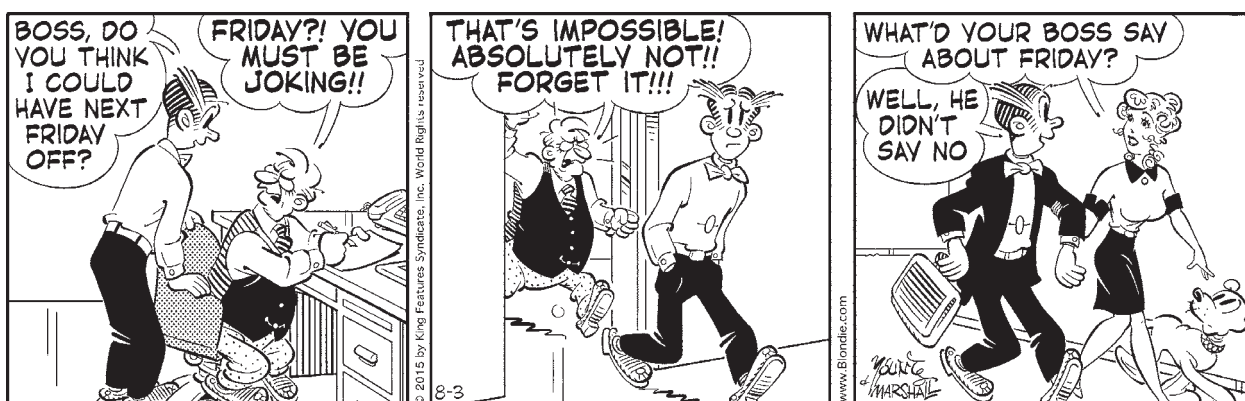
## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



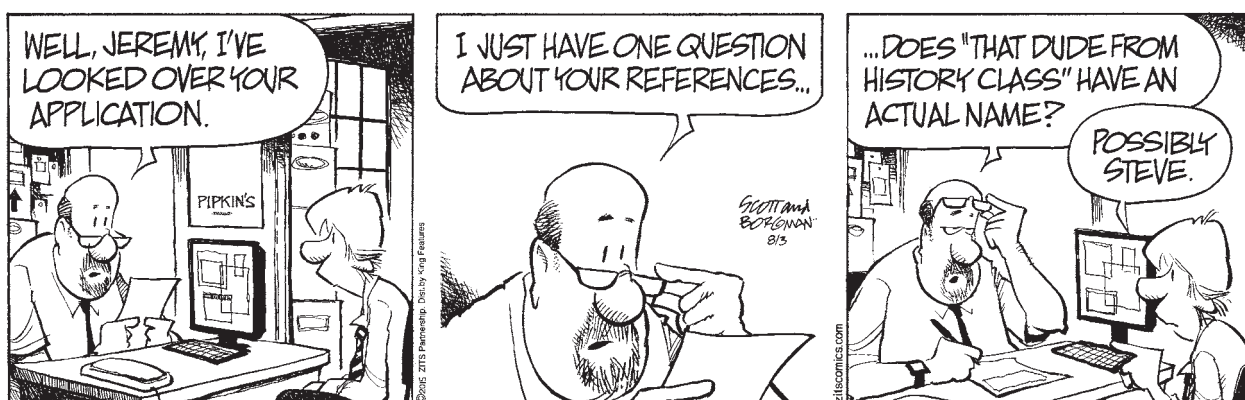
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

9				8		3		
		1		3	7		8	
	2				9			6
					3	8	9	
4	5			2			3	7
	8	3	6					
5			3				1	
	9		8	6		4		
		7		4				2

Difficulty Level ★

8/03

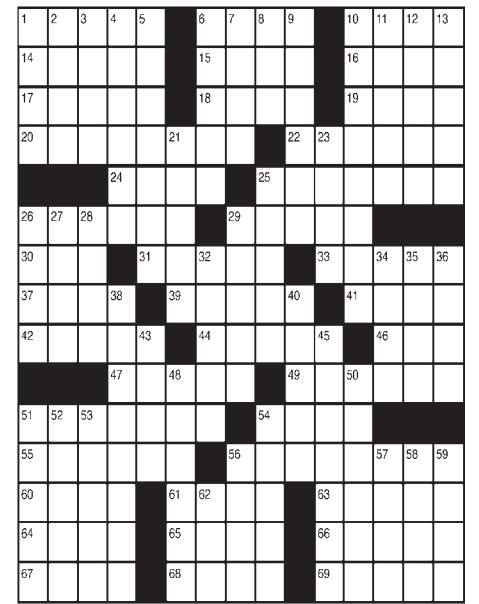
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

5	8	1	2	9	6	7	3	4
7	6	9	5	3	4	8	2	1
2	4	3	8	1	7	5	6	9
1	3	8	7	6	9	4	5	2
9	7	5	4	2	8	3	1	6
4	2	6	1	5	3	9	7	8
8	5	7	6	4	1	2	9	3
3	1	2	9	8	5	6	4	7
6	9	4	3	7	2	1	8	5

## ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_ on; was overly fond of  
6 Happy  
10 Collapsed  
14 Silly  
15 Scalp problem  
16 Greenish-blue  
17 Jailbirds' rooms  
18 Has \_\_\_ in one's pants; is jittery  
19 Baseball scores  
20 Exciting adventure  
22 Cold period in history  
24 Lunch spot  
25 One lurking about with evil intent  
26 "\_\_\_ or leave it"  
29 Female relative  
30 Happy \_\_\_ clam  
31 \_\_\_ in; enjoy  
33 Smoke \_\_\_; warning device  
37 Unruffled  
39 Fight off  
41 Outdoor feast  
42 Verb in a bread recipe  
44 Lowest point  
46 Malia, to Sasha  
47 Capital of South Korea  
49 Fight  
51 Annoys  
54 Give up land  
55 Goes into  
56 Result of a high fever, perhaps  
60 Slightly open  
61 Dance at a Bar Mitzvah  
63 Went skyward  
64 "Old King \_\_\_ was a merry..."  
65 Mysterious sky sights, for short  
66 Memos  
67 Watched  
68 Sticky strip  
69 Garbage



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/3/15

## Saturday's Puzzle Solved

SLUR	ISAAC	ABCS
TUNE	NADIR	REAL
AKIN	CLOSE	MAGI
REVENUE	LABORED	
WAR	FEMUR	
DOPEY	BUS	NEARS
WILD	PAR	ANDREA
ALA	RIGIDLY	DAB
RETAIN	OIL	CODO
FREUD	MUD	WORST
DESIS	RED	
BLURRED	MEDDLED	
LOSE	EDDIE	LURE
OBEY	PLANK	EARN
BEDS	SEEDS	RUST

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8/3/15

## DOWN

- 1 Yahtzee cubes  
2 Dollar bills

- 3 Powder, for short  
4 Intertwine  
5 Hopelessness  
6 Forest opening  
7 Out of \_\_\_; misbehaving  
8 Perform  
9 Want  
10 "Adieu!"  
11 Sugar substitute  
12 Sudden  
13 High-powered surgical beam  
21 Run \_\_\_; chase  
23 \_\_\_-Cola  
25 Made a stack  
26 Small nail  
27 As comfortable \_\_\_ old shoe  
28 Leaf vegetable  
29 Himalayan nation  
32 One of the planets  
34 Vienna's nation: abbr.

- 35 Metal bar  
36 Ponder  
38 Learned well  
40 Written slander  
43 Forest animal  
45 Glowing  
48 "Put up \_\_\_ up!"  
50 Extreme fear  
51 Tranquillity  
52 Have fun doing  
53 No longer fresh  
54 Stop  
56 Let fall  
57 Greek letter  
58 \_\_\_ up; spends  
59 Fit snugly together  
62 Son \_\_\_ gun



# Classifieds

## TIMESHARE RESALES

**Costa Linda Beach Resorts**  
2 bdr \$8800 each  
2 bdr week 33/34 room #5007  
pool/ ocean view  
Price: \$10.000 each,  
more info call:  
005999-518-2984  
info@arubatimetravel.com  
www.arubatimetravel.com

206978

## TIMESHARE OWNERS

Do you want to sell your Time Share in Aruba?  
let us just do it for you!  
call the experts 30 years  
experience more info call:  
005999-518-2984  
Rent or buy go to the web site  
info@arubatimetravel.com  
www.arubatimetravel.com

206978

## TIMESHARE FOR SALE

**DIVI PHOENIX WK 36,**  
1bdm unit 205 starts  
on 09/05 \$4150wk34  
studio rm 107 pool floor  
starts on 8/22 \$3500  
and in Divi Village wk  
35 rm 128 starts 9/5  
\$2800

wk 37 unit 92 studio  
starts on 9/12 \$2800  
Local till 8/29 cell: 565-  
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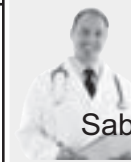
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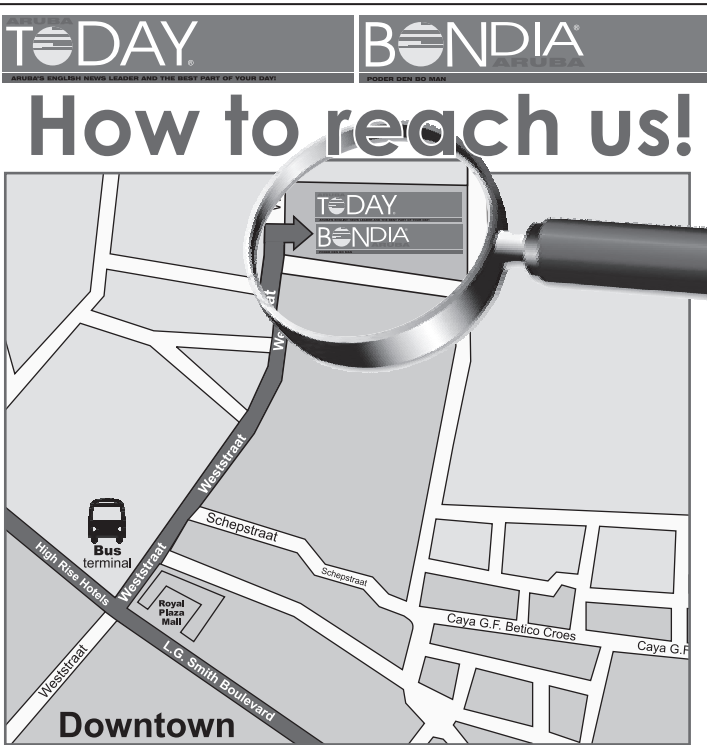
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24/7

## Deforestation in Mexico butterfly reserve more than triples

**MARK STEVENSON**  
**Associated Press**

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Illegal logging more than tripled in the monarch butterfly's wintering grounds in central Mexico, reversing several years of steady improvements, investigators announced Tuesday.

Almost all of the loss occurred in just one rural hamlet in the state of Michoacan. Loggers cut down 47 acres (19 hectares) of trees in San Felipe de los Alzati since last year's gathering of butterflies. A total of 52 acres (21 hectares) of forest in the reserve were lost overall, including losses due to drought or pests.

That's the highest figure since 2009, well above the 20 acres (8 hectares) lost in 2014, according to the announcement by the World Wildlife fund and the Institute of Biology of Mexico's National Autonomous University. The 2014 loss was about 12 acres (5 hectares) due to logging and 8 acres (3 hectares) to drought.

Illegal logging fell to almost zero in 2012, and experts stressed that 31 of the 32 communities in the reserve had kept logging down to very, very low levels.

The forest canopy is a sort of blanket against cold for the masses of orange-and-black butterflies that form huge clumps on tree branches during their winter stay in Mexico.

Loss of that habitat is just one of the threats to the butterflies' amazing migration across Canada and the United States to Mexico. The migration is an inherited trait: No butterfly lives to make the full round

trip, and it is unclear how they find the route back to the same patch of pine forest each year. Some scientists suggest the butterflies may release chemicals marking the migratory path and fear that if their numbers fall too low, the chemical traces will not be strong enough for others to follow.

This year butterflies that reached the wintering grounds covered 2.79

bound, they do so at lower levels. The species is found in many countries and is not in danger of extinction, but experts fear the migration could be disrupted if very few butterflies make the 3,400-mile (5,470-kilometer) trip.

ist operations or reforestation nurseries to grow and plant saplings. Funding for the hamlet of San Felipe de los Alzati has temporarily been suspended due to the logging there.

The fact that most of last year's loss also occurred in San Felipe indicates a growing problem there, said Omar Vidal, head of the World Wildlife Fund in Mexico.

"The government has to step up enforcement and start talking more seriously with this community, to find out the causes" behind the logging, Vidal said. Some communities have complained that outside loggers — sometimes armed — invade local forests without the consent of the community. Other logging, however, has been the work of locals who few other job opportunities."

After illegal logging felled hundreds of acres of trees in the reserve between 2003 and 2006, authorities cracked down on illegal sawmills and stepped up incentives to encourage communities to preserve the woods.

"The main problem in Mexico is the lack of protection," said writer and activist Homero Aridjis, who noted that some officials at the reserve were replaced and that President Enrique Pena Nieto recently appointed his cousin, Alejandro del Mazo, to head the agency that oversees Mexico's nature reserves.

Del Mazo's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment. □



In this Jan. 4, 2015 file photo, a kaleidoscope of Monarch butterflies hang from a tree branch, in the Piedra Herrada sanctuary, near Valle de Bravo, Mexico.

**Associated Press**

acres (1.13 hectares), a 69 percent rebound from last February's 1.65 acres (0.67 hectare), which was the lowest since record-keeping began in 1993. Butterflies cluster so closely together that they are counted by the area they cover, rather than by the number of individuals. At their peak in 1996, the monarchs covered more than 44.5 acres (18 hectares) in the mountains west of Mexico City. But the overall tendency since then has been a steep, progressive decline. Each time the Monarchs re-

Largely Indian farm communities in the mountain reserve have received government development funds in return for preserving the 139,000-acre (56,259 hectare) reserve in the mountains west of Mexico City that UNESCO has declared a World Heritage site. Some of the communities earn income from tour-



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# Josh Duggar in rehab after admitting to pornography habit

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Days after he confessed to cheating on his wife and an addiction to pornography, Josh Duggar has entered rehab.

The ex-reality star checked himself into a long-term treatment center, according to his parents, Jim Bob and Michelle Duggar.

Their announcement Wednesday on the family's website did not specify the nature or duration of treatment, nor did it identify the facility. But the statement spoke of "a long journey toward wholeness and recovery."

"We pray that in this he comes to complete repentance and sincere change," his parents said,

adding they are "deeply grieved" by his actions, which have "brought great insult to the values and faith we hold dear."

The couple also said Josh's wife, Anna, with whom he has four children, is receiving "counsel and help for her own heart and future."

Last week, the 27-year-old Duggar made an online apology, calling himself "the biggest hypocrite ever" following reports that he had been a subscriber to the cheating website AshleyMadison.com, whose millions of customer records were recently hacked and made public.

His admission came weeks after he acknowledged in May having molested five underage girls as a teenager, including two of his



In this Aug. 29, 2014, file photo, Josh Duggar, executive director of FRC Action, speaks in favor the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act at the Arkansas state Capitol in Little Rock, Ark.

Associated Press

sisters.

Those revelations led to the cancellation of "19 Kids and Counting," the hit TLC

reality show on which he appeared with his 18 siblings and his parents in a portrait of wholesome, re-

ligious family life. The series ran from 2008 through its 10th-season conclusion in May. □

## Special invitation:

On Thursday, August 27 there will be a presentation of the book "Fidel's Dauphin: The secret history

of Hugo Chavez and the February 4th Coup d'état " followed by a book signing by the author General

Carlos Peñaloza.

The event will be held at Paradise Beach Villas at 7 p.m.

General Peñaloza gives his narrative up to the failed coup attempt of February 4, 1992. General Peñaloza

will read passages from the book and explain the state of current affairs in Venezuela. □



El militar de carrera y general retirado Carlos Julio Peñaloza combatió en los años sesenta las guerrillas castro comunistas urbanas y rurales.

En 1989 detiene a Hugo Chávez por conspiración, pero el Presidente Carlos Andrés Pérez ordena su libertad. Meses después Chávez encabeza un fallido golpe de estado.

En el primer libro, *El imperio de Fidel* cubrió las injerencias de Fidel Castro en Venezuela, hasta 1968, en esta segunda entrega, es la secuela a ese primer libro y culmina con el intento fallido de golpe de Estado del 4 de Febrero de 1992. El Delfin era el título que recibía el primogénito del rey de Francia.

Chávez es hechura de Fidel y de otros artesanos comunistas como

Douglas Bravo y Alí Rodríguez Araque que trabajando en conjunto con políticos y jefes militares venezolanos lo crearon y desarrollaron. Chávez fue producto de hambres de poder potenciadas por su elocuencia y carisma.

"El General Peñaloza ha escrito un libro sobre Chávez y Fidel imprescindible para entender cómo y por qué Venezuela se ha convertido en una explotada colonia cubana y conejillo de indias del "Foro de Sao Paulo". La investigación es impecable y la y enjundioso, deben beneficiarse tanto los cubanos como los venezolanos. Peñaloza fue jefe del Ejército venezolano y tuvo acceso a informes de inteligencia totalmente secretos. Si Carlos Andrés Pérez lo hubiera escuchado la historia de Venezuela sería diferente. Esta obra es de las que perdurarán".

CARLOS ALBERTO MONTANER, periodista y escritor



EL  
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FIDEL

## EL DELFIN DE FIDEL

La historia oculta tras el golpe del 4F



General Carlos Peñaloza

General Carlos Peñaloza



## Broadway's leading ladies strike an online pose for equality



In this July 24, 2015 file photo, Kristin Chenoweth, a cast member in "Descendants," poses at the premiere of the film in Burbank, Calif.

Associated Press

**MARK KENNEDY**  
**AP Drama Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Some Broadway heroines are rolling up their sleeves and posing in a familiar way to support National Women's Equality Day. Kristin Chenoweth, Laura Benanti and Patina Miller were some of the women Wednesday on Twitter or Instagram striking the classic Rosie the Riveter pose. Others included the leading ladies of "Hamilton" — Renée Elise Goldsberry, Jasmine Cephas Jones

and Phillipa Soo — and the trio of women heading the "The King and I" — Kelli O'Hara, Ruthie Ann Miles and Ashley Park.

It's an attempt to bring attention to the fact that there's no Equal Rights Amendment and to help it get reintroduced in Congress.

Other participants included Beth Malone and Judy Kuhn from "Fun Home," composers Cyndi Lauper and Sara Bareilles, and actresses Laura Osnes and Stephanie J. Block. □

## New pals Lawrence and Schumer writing a comedy together

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Jennifer Lawrence and Amy Schumer aren't just riding jet skis together. They're making a movie.

A representative for Lawrence confirms Wednesday that Lawrence and Schumer are writing a screenplay. In an interview with The New York Times, Lawrence says the two are planning to star in the comedy as sisters.

Lawrence seems thrilled by their newfound friendship and says she and Schumer are "creatively made for each other."



In this July 9, 2015 file photo, Jennifer Lawrence attends "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2" press line on day 1 of Comic-Con International in San Diego, Calif.

Associated Press

The two became friends after the "Hunger Games" star reached out to the comedian to praise her recent film "Trainwreck." □



In this image released by Showtime, Lizzy Caplan appears in a scene from "Masters of Sex." Associated Press

## Study: Female directors make work gains; minorities lag

**LYNN ELBER**  
**AP Television Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Female directors are getting slightly more work in the expanding world of TV series and outlets, but the same can't be said for their minority counterparts, according to a new Directors Guild of America study. Women directed 16 percent of the nearly 4,000 episodes that aired last season, a year-to-year increase of 2 percent, the guild found.

Minorities, both male and female, directed 18 percent of episodes, a 1 percent dip, according to an analysis of episodes from nearly 280 broadcast, cable and online series from the 2014-15 season.

Both the TV and movie industries have long been under scrutiny for a lack of opportunity for women and minorities, with studies by entertainment unions and others finding that the preference for hiring white men is deeply entrenched. The TV "pie is getting bigger," the directors guild noted in the study released Tuesday, with the total of 3,910 episodes representing a 10 percent increase over the previous season. But the video-on-demand

services that are contributing to the explosion of choices are also abetting the status quo, the guild said.

Netflix, Amazon and Playstation fielded series that appeared on the guild's "Worst" list of 61 shows that hired women or minority directors for fewer than 15 percent of episodes.

Some didn't hire any women or minorities for the season studied, the guild said, including Netflix's "Marco Polo" and Playstation's "Powers."

"The uptick in the number of episodes directed by women — modest but hopeful — is just a drop in the bucket of what needs to be done by studios, networks and showrunners before we can begin to realize equal opportunities in television for our members," said guild President Paris Barclay.

"With so many more episodes and work opportunities, employers should seize the opportunity for diversity with their choices, especially when it comes to first-time episodic directors."

Of the 128 first-time TV directors hired in the 2014-15 season, 84 percent were male, up from 80 percent in the previous season — hir-

ing that has a "significant impact" on the hiring pool over time, the guild said.

For women, the study found a 21 percent year-to-year growth rate in directing jobs, from 509 episodes in the 2013-14 season to 618 episodes in the 2014-15 window.

While there was a 5 percent increase in the number of episodes directed by minorities — to 694 from 660 in 2013-14 — that represents half the percentage increase in total episodes.

The number of shows without any female or minority directors on the "Worst" list was up 17 percent over the previous season, the study found. Entries from the cable and broadcast world include HBO's "Boardwalk Empire"; Disney Channel's "Girl Meets World"; Fox's "Gracepoint"; Showtime's "Masters of Sex," and CBS' "Mom."

The 57 shows that made the "Best" list, with at least 40 percent of episodes directed by women or minorities, include "The Game," among three BET shows with only minority or female directors; CBS' "The McCarthys"; Fox's "Empire"; ABC's "American Crime"; CW's "Jane the Virgin" and Showtime's "Homeland." □



# Robert Redford takes a walk through his classic buddy roles

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — When Robert Redford first acquired the film rights to Bill Bryson's memoir "A Walk in the Woods," he knew exactly who he wanted to play his Appalachian Trail hiking comrade: Paul Newman.

Not only were the two men responsible for some of cinema's most iconic duos — they were lifetime friends as well.

But the 11-year age difference was starting to become a problem. Newman, whose health was in decline, was afraid he wouldn't be up for the physical challenges of the role. When Newman died in 2008, the project nearly died, too.

And then The Sundance Kid met Nick Nolte.

However strange it might sound for two contemporaries with long-running careers, Nolte and Redford didn't actually know one another.

"I liked him as an actor. You could see that he had an undisciplined side in life," said Redford.

Redford cast Nolte in his 2012 political thriller "The Company You Keep," they hit it off, and "A Walk in the Woods," out next Wednesday, came off the shelf again.

Nolte was actually a better fit for the part of Stephen



In this Jan. 22, 2015 file photo, Robert Redford, founder of the Sundance Institute, interacts with the media during the opening day press conference at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Katz anyway — Bryson's messy, out of shape, ex-friend who accompanies him on a misguided trek on the 2,160-mile footpath.

"Our backgrounds were very similar before I got my act together. I got my act together somewhere along the line, but earlier in my life I was a mess — undisciplined, out for adventure and risk. I pulled it together, but I could identify with that part of Nick," said Redford. Director Ken Kwapis said in the rehearsal process the two actors used their own personal histories to fill in the gaps of their charac-

ters.

"Part of the pleasure of watching Bob and Nick is reflecting on their respective filmographies. On one hand, the film is about moving forward in life, but on the other, it's about two guys taking stock of where they are in life," said Kwapis. Redford, who just turned 79, reflects on some of his classic two-handers on the eve of the release of his latest buddy adventure:

## "BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID" (1969)

"We played partners who bitched and moaned

at each other but who were loyal to each other. I thought that was a nice dynamic," said Redford, who first met Paul Newman on the project.

"The studio didn't want me because I was not a name equal to Paul's. I was just sort of moving up at that time. There was a big argument that went on for months and months. They said it had to be a star. (Newman) said, 'Well, I want to work with an actor' because Paul respected acting. Had it not been for Paul, I would not have gotten that break," he said.

## "THE STING" (1973)

"After 'Butch Cassidy' we became very close friends. 'The Sting' just sort of fell into place naturally," said Redford. "What was interesting was the switchero. Paul had played these iconic, quiet, still characters in the past and that's not what Paul is. He was a chatty, nervous guy who was always biting his fingernails. He always had tape on his fingernails. He used to chain smoke, before he stopped smoking, and was always drinking beer. He was a very nervous guy. He loved to have fun and play games," said Redford.

"He loved to tell jokes that were so awful. He'd tell you a joke at 11 o'clock and he'd be the only guy laughing. And then he'd tell the same joke again at 2, forgetting that he'd already told it. We had to live through that," he said. "But underneath all that was a slow connecting between Paul and me as actors."

## "ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN" (1976)

"The history of that project is almost more interesting than the project," said Redford. He started obsessing over the saga during a whistle stop tour for "The Candidate" when he overheard some journalists gossiping about the DNC break-in. □



This Aug. 25, 2015 photo shows the blank white wall that will become the 'canvas' for a mural by Brazilian artist Kobra, with an image of Bob Dylan in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — A team of artists is working on a giant mural featuring a portrait of musician

Bob Dylan on a building in downtown Minneapolis. On Wednesday, the artists began painting the 60-

# Minneapolis building to get giant mural featuring Bob Dylan

foot tall, 150-wide portrait of Dylan, who originally hailed from Duluth and once owned the Orpheum Theatre in Minneapolis, the Star Tribune (<http://trib. mn/1EjJIKI>) reports. The kaleidoscopic portrait will fill a whitewashed wall at the corner of Fifth Street and Hennepin Avenue.

Commissioned by the building's owner, Goldman Sachs, the mural is part of Hennepin Theatre Trust's effort to help revitalize downtown Minneapolis with a Cultural District. "We want Minneapolis to be a 24-

hour city," said Joan Vanderbruggen, arts coordinator for the district. "Arts and culture should be a part of every step you take."

The \$50,000 project is being planned by Brazilian artist Eduardo Kobra, who has left his mark on facades across three continents, including a mural of rappers Tupac and the Notorious B.I.G. in Miami and one of Nobel Peace laureate Malala Yousafzai in Rome. This will be his largest project outside of Brazil.

Kobra's team of five artists, three from Brazil and two

from Minnesota, will use boom lifts and air compressors as they work on the mural over the next two weeks.

Kobra wants to keep the design a surprise, but he welcomes people who want to witness the creative process. He envisions a triptych of Dylan, with three black and white images of the musician over different periods of his long career.

The mural will include lyrics from Dylan's song "The Times They Are A-Changin'." □



# Teenagers are Shopping More Like Their Parents

**A. D'INNOCENZIO**

**AP Retail Writer**

**GARDEN CITY, N.Y. (AP) —**

Giulia Pugliese is a typical teenager. She likes to look good, and she's particular about what she wears.

But when The Associated Press followed the 15-year-old from Long Island on a recent back-to-school shopping trip with friends, she left a Nike store empty-handed — even though

Today's kids recycle more clothes from the previous school year, mixing and matching the old with the new for different looks. They also shop year-round for things they need so they're spending less money this time of year.

When they do buy, they're less likely to get anything that's not on sale. And the number of kids who'll reuse last year's items rose to 39

tail Economist, a research firm. That's much lower than the 5 to 6 percent average gains typically seen in a healthy economy.

Teens' behavior is an extension of how their parents learned to shop since 2008 when retailers pushed discounts to entice people to buy during the downturn. That helped lure shoppers, but it also got them addicted to deals. The shift

stores market to teens. Whereas stores' promotions would end around Labor Day, they're now extending them through September. They're also pulling together complete outfits from different brands in stores to make it easier for teens to buy looks. And they're using social media campaigns to be more easily discovered by teens. To observe teens' new be-

about half of their back-to-school budget of about \$400 after school begins.

Cimato didn't buy anything at all that day. Harrison, who bought just a few shirts, said: "To be honest, it's not that big of a deal because I shop year round."

Besides that, they want big discounts. During their shopping trip, Schaden found a \$58 romper she liked, but decided to leave the mall without it.

"I think I buy on sale because my mom never buys something unless it's on sale," she said.

In response to this new thinking, Macy's and J.C. Penney are now staggering back-to-school promotions through September. Penney also is increasing the back-to-school merchandise it carries in late August and September. That includes denim, backpacks, and basics such as underwear.

And Hollister, a division of Abercrombie & Fitch, says it is timing deals on items that shoppers most want at that time. Right now, it's promoting trendy tops and T-shirts with graphics, for instance.

## SMART CONSUMERS

Teens aren't roaming around at the mall for kicks during back-to-school. They're researching the looks they want online and follow popular hashtags on social media so they can piece together looks before they get there. Google says its image searches for "school outfit" have grown dramatically during the past three years, and soared 76 percent in July. Cimato, who researched denim tops and items with fringe on Instagram, said: "I pretty much know what I am looking for."

That presents challenges for retailers that are afraid teens will bypass their stores because they're focused on items they already want to buy. So, retailers are trying to get teens' attention before they are in stores.

Macy's is identifying key trends and hashtags on social media that are getting lots of followers. □



**Giulia Pugliese, 15, right, shops for clothes with friends at Roosevelt Field shopping mall in Garden City, N.Y. Teens are shopping like their parents during the back-to-school season, and that's putting a lot of pressure on retailers to change the way they market to them. More teens are thrifty nowadays, a habit picked up from their recession-scarred parents. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)**

Nike is one of her favorites. The reason?

"I buy on sale because it's stupid to buy a pair of shorts for \$60," said Pugliese, who instead looks for the "Swoosh" logo in discount stores like Marshalls. Teens are shopping like their parents during the back-to-school season, and that's putting a lot of pressure on retailers to change the way they market to them. Gone are the spending sprees, starting weeks before school bells ring. More teens are thrifty nowadays, a habit picked up from their recession-scarred parents.

percent from 26 percent between 2011 and 2015, says a Deloitte LLP poll of 1,000 parents.

And when teens shop, they're spending less. Families with school-age kids, on average, are expected to spend \$630.36 this year, according to a survey of 6,500 by the National Retail Federation. That's down 6 percent from last year and results have registered declines for four out of the past seven years.

Overall, back-to-school spending this year should hit \$42.5 billion, up 2.1 percent from the previous year, according to The Re-

tail Economist, a research firm. That's much lower than the 5 to 6 percent average gains typically seen in a healthy economy.

Such behavior has cut into sales from July through September, the second biggest shopping period of the year behind the winter holidays. Sales during that period were 24.9 percent of total sales annually last year, down from 25.8 percent in 2003, according to The Retail Economist.

"Consumers are sending a message to retailers that says 'the back-to-school shopping season just isn't that important anymore,'" says Deloitte's Alison Paul. The shift is changing how

havior, the AP followed Pugliese; her cousin, Arianna Schaden, 14; and two friends, Isabella Cimato, 17, and Sofia Harrison, 15, at Roosevelt Field mall in Garden City, N.Y. Here are some ways teens are shopping differently, and how retailers are adjusting:

## NO RUSH TO BUY

Teens aren't impatient about shopping.

Although they started shopping weeks early, the four teens plan to delay buying things they don't need immediately, like jeans, until well after school starts and the weather cools. In fact, they're planning to spend